1	FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION											
2	I N D E X (PUBLIC RECORD)											
3												
4	WITNESS:	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSS							
5	Dritsas	4612	4838	4892	4911							
6												
7	EXHIBITS		FOR ID	IN E	VID							
8	Commission											
9	None											
10	Schering											
11	SPX 2264			479	93							
12	SPX 2266 4793											
13	SPX 2267 4793											
14	Upsher											
15	Number 380			476	64							
16	Number 410 4774											
17	Number 626 4714											
18	Number 822			480	01							
19	Number 837			482	20							
20	Number 839			479	99							
21	Number 154	9		469	91							
22	Number 155	1		475	54							
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1	OTHER EXHIBITS REFERENCED	PAGE
2	Commission	
3	CX 19	4839
4	CX 21	4853
5	CX 24	4864
6	CX 138	4866
7	CX 255	4855
8	CX 256	4860
9	CX 265	4863
10	CX 740	4687
11	CX 929	4879
12	CX 991	4882
13	CX 992	4882
14	CX 1100	4843
15	CX 1586	4823
16	Schering	
17	None	
18	Upsher	
19	USX 386	4801
20	USX 425	4768
21	USX 440	4804
22	USX 480	4759
23	USX 484	4764
24	USX 498	4748
25	USX 591	4811

1	Upsł	ner			
2	USX	619			4707
3	USX	630			4737
4	USX	634			4805
5	USX	635			4808
6	USX	643			4740
7	USX	660			4814
8	USX	1005			4794
9	USX	1006			4794
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1	FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION							
2								
3	In the Matter of:)							
4	SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION,)							
5	a corporation,)							
6	and)							
7	UPSHER-SMITH LABORATORIES,) File No. D09297							
8	a corporation,)							
9	and)							
10	AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS,)							
11	a corporation.)							
12)							
13								
14	Thursday, February 21, 2002							
15	9:30 a.m.							
16	TRIAL VOLUME 20							
17	PART 1							
18	PUBLIC RECORD							
19	BEFORE THE HONORABLE D. MICHAEL CHAPPELL							
20	Administrative Law Judge							
21	Federal Trade Commission							
22	600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.							
23	Washington, D.C.							
24								
25	Reported by: Susanne Bergling, RMR							
	For The Record, Inc. Waldorf, Maryland							

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- 2 - -
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, let's reconvene docket
- 4 9297.
- 5 Mr. Nields?
- 6 MR. NIELDS: Your Honor, may I just raise one
- 7 housekeeping matter before we begin?
- 8 JUDGE CHAPPELL: What kind of matter?
- 9 MR. NIELDS: Housekeeping.
- 10 JUDGE CHAPPELL: I thought you said "has to
- 11 be, " so -- okay.
- MR. NIELDS: I neglected, Your Honor, yesterday
- 13 at the end of Mr. Lauda's testimony to re-offer the two
- 14 exhibits that I'd offered in his direct and we had
- 15 agreed we would wait until cross. Now, Mr. Eisenstat's
- 16 not here, and I think in fairness, in case he has an
- 17 objection, we shouldn't actually do it until he is
- here, but I just wanted to make it clear that we were
- 19 going to re-offer those two exhibits as we had
- 20 indicated that we would.
- 21 They are demonstratives, and they can be
- 22 considered by the trier of fact whether they are in
- 23 evidence or not, and that's the --
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Right, and that's the way I
- 25 have admitted those kind of exhibits in this trial

- 1 since the beginning, for identification purposes, as
- 2 merely -- like you said, they're demonstrative aids
- 3 relied upon by an expert. With that clarification,
- 4 re-offer them when Mr. Eisenstat's around or have
- 5 someone contact him, and we'll take it from there.
- 6 MR. NIELDS: Okay, that's fine, that will be
- 7 acceptable to us, just to treat them the way the Court
- 8 has treated the other ones.
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Since he had a conditional
- 10 objection, as you recall, he was going to reconsider
- 11 after the cross.
- MR. NIELDS: Yes.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: So, just let me know after you
- 14 talk to him.
- MR. NIELDS: Thank you, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Mr. Curran?
- 17 MR. CURRAN: Your Honor, as promised, we
- anticipate calling six witnesses today and tomorrow,
- 19 the first five of whom are Upsher-Smith employees flown
- 20 in specially from Minnesota, the first of whom, who we
- 21 would like to offer to the stand at this time, is
- 22 Phillip Dritsas, who's the vice president of sales and
- 23 marketing at Upsher-Smith, and Mr. Gidley, whom you
- 24 know, will conduct this examination.
- 25 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Curran.

- 1 (Discussion off the record.)
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Sir, raise your right hand.
- 3 Whereupon--
- 4 PHILLIP W. DRITSAS
- 5 a witness, called for examination, having been first
- duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thank you, have a seat.
- 8 State your full name for the record, please.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Phillip William Dritsas.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thanks.
- 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 12 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Good morning, Mr. Dritsas.
- 14 Sir, are you currently employed by
- 15 Upsher-Smith?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. In what capacity?
- 18 A. I am the vice president of sales and marketing.
- 19 Q. I'd like to cover with you a little bit of your
- 20 employment and educational background. Let me start
- 21 with your educational background.
- 22 Prior to entering the work force, did you
- 23 attend college?
- 24 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And did you obtain a degree?

- 1 A. I did.
- Q. And what year, sir?
- 3 A. 1981.
- 4 Q. And what sort of degree?
- 5 A. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in speech and
- 6 fine arts.
- 7 Q. All right, sir. And what's the first position
- 8 you accepted at Upsher-Smith?
- 9 A. I was a telephone sales trainee.
- 10 Q. And what year was that?
- 11 A. That was 1983.
- 12 Q. And what were your responsibilities in 1983 at
- 13 Upsher-Smith in that capacity?
- 14 A. Well, primarily to call retail customers and
- introduce who Upsher-Smith was so that we could sell
- 16 our products.
- Q. Give me a feel for how large Upsher-Smith was
- 18 in 1983, sir.
- 19 A. We had about \$4 million in sale, and I believe
- I was the 45th employee hired.
- Q. How many people worked in the sales function at
- 22 that time, approximately?
- 23 A. I was the fifth hired.
- Q. What's the next position you held within
- 25 Upsher-Smith?

1 A. I was then promoted to telephone sales

- 2 supervisor.
- 3 Q. And when was that?
- 4 A. That was January of 1984.
- 5 Q. And what did you do in that capacity?
- A. Well, I oversaw the telephone sales area and
- 7 helped coaching and training.
- Q. All right. And what's the next position that
- 9 you held within Upsher-Smith?
- 10 A. After that, I was promoted to the assistant
- 11 sales manager.
- 12 Q. What year was that, sir?
- 13 A. That was roughly 1985.
- Q. And what were your responsibilities generally
- in that capacity?
- 16 A. Similar to the other things, and in addition to
- 17 that, we started a small national account department.
- 18 Q. What's the next position that you achieved at
- 19 Upsher-Smith?
- 20 A. After that, I was promoted to the sales
- 21 manager.
- Q. And what year?
- 23 A. That was about a year and a half later.
- 24 Q. So, that would be 1986?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And what were your responsibilities as sales

- 2 manager in 1986 for the company?
- 3 A. Similar responsibilities. In addition to that,
- 4 overseeing the consumer sales.
- 5 Q. When you say "consumer sales," what does that
- 6 mean in this context?
- 7 A. There were a couple of products that we had,
- 8 suppository products.
- 9 Q. These were sold directly to consumers, is that
- 10 what you mean?
- 11 A. They were sold into drugstores out front.
- 12 Q. I see. And what's the next position you held
- 13 at Upsher-Smith?
- 14 A. I was made the national sales manager after
- 15 that.
- Q. And I'm sorry, when was that?
- 17 A. That was about four months later.
- 18 Q. 1986-'87, is that time period about right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. And what's the next position that
- 21 you held at Upsher-Smith?
- 22 A. After that, I was promoted to the director of
- 23 sales.
- Q. And when was that, approximately?
- 25 A. That was in the early nineties, '91-'92.

1 Q. And just to give us a feel, about how large was

- 2 the company in terms of sales, in terms of the sales
- 3 department, et cetera, in that time period?
- 4 A. In the early nineties, we were close to \$30
- 5 million in sales. The sales department had about 12
- 6 telephone salespeople, and we had two or three national
- 7 account reps.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I do have my realtime
- 9 transcript working, so in the event someone objects to
- 10 a question, I can now carefully review the question.
- 11 You may proceed.
- MR. GIDLEY: Very good.
- 13 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Sir, in your industry, in the pharmaceutical
- industry, are you familiar with the concept of
- 16 detailing?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you tell the Court what detailing is in the
- 19 pharmaceutical industry?
- 20 A. Well, in the pharmaceutical industry, detailing
- 21 really involves talking to a physician, most commonly
- 22 face to face. These are the representatives that have
- 23 a car, they go out in the territory, and then they
- 24 canvas the doctors' offices.
- 25 Q. And they don't -- do they typically have

offices or do they typically spend their time in the

- 2 field?
- 3 A. They spend their time in the field.
- Q. And in the early 1990s, did Upsher-Smith have
- 5 field sales reps or detail people?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. So, your marketing was done by what means in
- 8 this time period?
- 9 A. Well, primarily through direct mail, and then
- 10 we would call the pharmacists and physicians over the
- 11 phone, and then we did have one or two national account
- 12 people who would go and call on our wholesaler and
- 13 chain headquarters.
- Q. And could you give the Court some examples of
- what national accounts would be in the early to
- 16 mid-nineties for Upsher-Smith?
- 17 A. Walgreens, McKesson, Bergen, wholesalers and
- 18 chain accounts, managed care accounts, PBMs.
- 19 Q. And McKesson and Bergen, what sorts of firms
- 20 are they?
- 21 A. McKesson and Bergen are wholesalers.
- Q. And a PBM is what, sir?
- 23 A. A pharmacy benefit manager.
- Q. And what would be an example?
- 25 A. Well, Merck-Medco is a pharmacy benefit manager

- 1 with the mail order service; Pacificare.
- 2 Q. I want to take you now to the time period
- 3 that's more relevant to the instant litigation, the
- 4 1995-1996-1997 time period.
- 5 On January 1, 1997, do you recall what your
- 6 title was at Upsher-Smith?
- 7 A. I was vice president of sales and marketing.
- Q. And what were your responsibilities in that
- 9 capacity, sir?
- 10 A. My job was to oversee the marketing and sales
- 11 functions for the company.
- 12 Q. What were some of the products that you were
- selling and marketing in January of 1997?
- 14 A. Well, generally speaking, we have
- 15 cardiovascular products, and within the cardiovascular
- 16 products, there were products like Klor Con, for
- 17 example, the powder, effervescent, 8 and 10, and those
- 18 are for hypertension. They don't treat hypertension,
- 19 but patients who are hypertensive are usually given a
- 20 diuretic, and it's a potassium supplement.
- In addition to that, there are other drugs that
- 22 we had that were lipid-lowering drugs, and -- Niacor,
- 23 which is our immediate release niacin indicated for
- lowering cholesterol would be an example of that.
- 25 Prevalite, which is our bile acid sequestrant, is

1 another example. And then we have a dietary supplement

- 2 for which we have a patented formulation, and that,
- 3 too, has been used in treatment of cholesterol.
- Q. What was the name of the dietary supplement
- 5 that you just referred to?
- 6 A. Slo-Niacin.
- 7 Q. And you just mentioned Prevalite, and I believe
- 8 the phrase you used was "bile acid sequestrant." Is
- 9 that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Could you tell the Court what a bile acid
- 12 sequestrant does?
- 13 A. Well, it's something that you drink. You mix
- it in with water and you drink it, and it lowers
- 15 cholesterol. It removes cholesterol from the gut.
- 16 Q. Now, on January 1, 1997, what was the
- 17 approximate size of Upsher-Smith in terms of the sales
- 18 force that Upsher-Smith had at that time?
- 19 A. At that time, we had grown to about 20
- 20 telephone salespeople. We had about eight national
- 21 account people. I had four marketing people. And then
- I had some service support people as well to do our
- 23 direct mail programs and some other areas.
- Q. Did you have a field sales force or detail
- 25 force at that time?

- 1 A. Not in 1997.
- Q. And for the year ended December 31, 1996, what
- 3 were the approximate sales of Upsher-Smith at this
- 4 time?
- 5 A. I think about \$35 million.
- Q. And what were the top selling products in the
- 7 year 1996 for the company?
- 8 A. The top selling products would have been the
- 9 Klor Con powder, effervescent, Klor Con 8 and Klor Con
- 10 10.
- 11 Q. Other than the Klor Con product line, what
- 12 other product lines were strong sellers in 1996, if
- 13 any?
- 14 A. Well, the niacin. We also had -- the niacin
- and Klor Con products were the ones that I recall
- 16 selling the most.
- 17 Q. Now, the sales figure you just gave me, where
- 18 did that refer to the sales, U.S. sales?
- 19 A. Yes, we only sell in the United States.
- 20 Q. All right. Did you have any sales force or
- 21 effort overseas in 1997?
- 22 A. No, we did not.
- Q. Now, in the spring of 1997, how would you
- 24 characterize Upsher-Smith in the context of the
- 25 pharmaceutical industry? Where does it fit in?

A. Well, really, we're a -- in the spring of 1997,

- 2 you would think of us as a relatively small
- 3 pharmaceutical company I guess compared to who we
- 4 compete with, but we have branded generic products.
- 5 So, the good news for us is, for example, when I first
- 6 started in '83, we launched our Klor Con powder, and
- 7 that was the first generically priced potassium powder
- 8 that was available, and a lot of the patients who were
- 9 taking potassium were older, some of whom were on fixed
- 10 incomes.
- 11 And it was similar also with our effervescent.
- 12 We were the first company to come out with a low-cost
- 13 alternative in the wax matrix tablets as well. So,
- while we were small and we weren't coming out with
- innovative new molecular entities, we were coming out
- 16 with economical products that we branded. And so we
- 17 call it a branded generic, and we're a niche market
- 18 player.
- 19 Q. Now, despite your relatively small size, were
- 20 you able to capture significant sales in the product
- 21 areas that you targeted?
- 22 A. Absolutely.
- 23 Q. What would be an example in the spring of 1997?
- A. Klor Con was a great example in our powder and
- 25 effervescent and 8 and 10.

- 1 Q. You mentioned earlier telephone sales reps.
- 2 Could you describe for the Court how a telephone sales
- 3 rep would make a sale or attempt to drive the sales of
- 4 Klor Con in this time period?
- 5 A. Well, there were a number of ways. They were
- 6 all trained to talk to physicians, so they could call
- 7 doctors and they could talk about our products. And
- 8 with a branded generic, you can ask the physician to
- 9 write for your brand, Klor Con. And they would also
- 10 call the pharmacies and then sell our products into the
- 11 independent pharmacies.
- 12 Q. What firms were you competing against in 1997
- in the sale of potassium?
- A. Oh, we were competing with a number of firms,
- and I probably couldn't list them all, but Abbott,
- 16 Ciba-Geigy, Ethex, Bajmar, Alra, a number that -- I
- 17 just can't remember all of them. Of course, we were
- 18 competing also with the Schering product on the K-Dur
- 19 10 and 20.
- Q. And in the 1996-'97 time period, how did you
- 21 compete against the K-Dur product?
- 22 A. Well, we would talk to pharmacists about the
- economics of two 10s for one 20 and so they could make
- 24 a therapeutic substitution on that product. Then we
- 25 would also talk to the managed care organizations, and

- 1 we would tell them about, again, the economics of the
- 2 two 10s for one 20. And we got a lot of success with
- 3 it.
- The K-Dur product, the 20 mEq product, is
- 5 rather large, and so a lot of the patients in reality
- 6 break it in half anyway, and so our rationale was that
- 7 they could save a lot of money by just taking two 10s.
- Q. Your product of 10 mEq tablet was called what,
- 9 sir?
- 10 A. Klor Con 10.
- 11 Q. And was Klor Con 10 therapeutically equivalent
- 12 with K-Dur 20?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. What reception did you receive with doctors and
- 15 pharmacists through your telephone sales efforts in
- 16 this time period?
- 17 A. Well, we had good receptivity to it. There
- 18 were -- now, again, the number of doctors that we could
- 19 reach was fairly limited given our size, but when we
- 20 spoke with the doctors, almost all doctors could relate
- 21 to some patients who either needed to save money or
- 22 didn't like the size of the tablet, and so they were
- 23 receptive to the idea of using two 10s.
- The pharmacists were usually very receptive,
- 25 too. A lot of the prescriptions were written open, and

- 1 so they would receive a prescription from a physician
- 2 that would simply say, for example, "KCl 20
- 3 milliequivalents Q daily," and so then it was up to the
- 4 pharmacist to use whatever -- whatever they wanted, and
- 5 they would often use our product because of the
- 6 economics.
- 7 Q. And these open prescriptions, was that common
- 8 in 1997?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. I want to talk about the physical size of the
- 11 products. How did the Klor Con -- strike that.
- 12 How did the Klor Con 10 wax matrix tablet
- compare physically with the K-Dur 20 tablet?
- 14 A. Well, the Klor Con wax matrix is about the same
- 15 size. If you broke a 20 mEq tablet in half, it's
- 16 roughly the same size, but the shape of the Klor Con 10
- 17 is much more conducive for swallowing. It's round.
- So, in other words, it's not bulky with any rough
- 19 edges. And it's aqueous coated, so, you know, it would
- 20 be a good alternative if you had a patient who was
- 21 complaining about swallowing a big tablet.
- Q. Can you tell the Court a little bit about the
- 23 patient profile of the typical hypokalemic that would
- 24 be taking potassium supplementation?
- 25 A. Well, most of the patients are hypertensive, as

- 1 I mentioned, to begin with, and so they tend --
- demographically, they tend to skew older. Many of
- 3 them -- what we found is most of the patients who are
- 4 on potassium are also on as many as seven or eight
- 5 other prescription products at the same time. So, they
- 6 might be treated for a number of conditions, many of
- 7 which might be cardiovascular related.
- Q. My own definition of "older" keeps changing
- 9 with the years. Could you be a little more specific
- about the average age of the patients that take this
- 11 drug?
- MS. BOKAT: Objection, Your Honor. I don't
- think there's been any foundation laid that this
- qentleman knows about the patients who take potassium
- 15 chloride.
- 16 MR. GIDLEY: I'm happy to lay a foundation,
- 17 Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Well, the Federal Rules of
- 19 Evidence allow opinions from lay witnesses, but they do
- 20 not allow an opinion that relies on technical
- 21 knowledge. That way, you don't get around the rule of
- 22 providing expert discovery.
- So, if you are going to ask him something that
- a normal person would know by observation, I'll allow
- 25 it. I'll sustain the objection until I hear a better

- 1 foundation.
- MR. GIDLEY: And just so we're clear, the
- 3 foundation I'm going to lay is his own knowledge as the
- 4 national director of sales selling this product, what
- 5 his understanding was of who his customers were.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: And you're not offering a
- 7 medical opinion here?
- 8 MR. GIDLEY: Absolutely not.
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 10 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 11 Q. Mr. Dritsas, how long have you been with
- 12 Upsher-Smith?
- 13 A. Nineteen years.
- Q. And how many years have you had some
- 15 responsibility or involvement with the sale of
- 16 potassium products?
- 17 A. Nineteen years.
- Q. And sir, in those 19 years, have you worked on
- 19 finetuning marketing messages for doctors with respect
- 20 to potassium products?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Have you worked on marketing messages with
- respect to pharmacists with respect to potassium
- 24 products?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Have you gained an understanding and
- 2 familiarity with the indications and side effects of
- 3 potassium products?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. In your capacity in various sales roles, have
- 6 you gained an understanding of the Klor Con 10 and 8
- 7 wax matrix product lines?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Are you familiar with the physical
- 10 characteristics of those products?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Are you familiar with the kinds of patients
- that those products typically would be prescribed for?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Have you geared marketing messages so that
- 16 doctors will prescribe your product rather than another
- 17 product?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now, in the context of working on marketing
- 20 messages and your own product familiarity, I want to
- 21 ask you just a few questions.
- 22 As for the typical hypertensive patient, can
- you give me a general age range that you understand
- would be taking a potassium supplement?
- 25 A. Well, the physicians tell us that many of their

- 1 patients are 65 and over that are on potassium
- 2 products. That wouldn't preclude a younger person from
- 3 being on that. It's just when we talk about potassium
- 4 with them, this is the type of patient that they're
- 5 thinking about, and most of their prescriptions they
- 6 tell us are written for that age range, if you will.
- 7 MS. BOKAT: Objection, Your Honor, I move to
- 8 strike the last answer as hearsay about what the
- 9 physicians told them.
- 10 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, I'm not offering it
- 11 for the truth of the matter asserted. I'm offering it
- 12 for the state of mind of the marketing department in
- gearing their marketing messages to drive sales,
- something this witness did for 19 years.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I'll overrule the objection
- 16 based on that limitation.
- 17 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, over those 19 years, have you been
- moderately successful in selling Klor Con 8 and 10 to
- 20 doctors and pharmacists?
- 21 A. We've been wildly successful selling Klor Con 8
- and 10 to pharmacists and doctors.
- Q. Why do you say "wildly successful," sir?
- A. Well, because given the resources that we have
- and in my opinion some of the competition that we're up

- 1 against, I think we've done a remarkable job of going
- 2 out and being able to drive market share in the KCl
- 3 market.
- Q. And when you refer to competitors, are you
- 5 referring to the resources of your competitors?
- A. I am. We're up against some very big companies
- 7 with a lot bigger budgets than we have and a lot bigger
- 8 field force and sales forces. So, I think we've done
- 9 an incredible job.
- 10 Q. I want to go back to the beginning of Klor Con
- and your involvement with that product line, if I
- 12 could, sir.
- 13 When you joined the company, what Klor Con
- products were being sold by Upsher-Smith?
- 15 A. When I joined, we were selling the Klor Con
- powder, and we were really the first low-cost
- 17 alternative for these -- for these patients, and so the
- 18 pharmacists were very excited to hear from us, and we
- 19 sold a lot of product.
- 20 Q. And when you say you had a powder product, what
- 21 strength was the powder sold in at this time?
- 22 A. The powder is a 20 milliequivalent, and we also
- 23 have a 25 milliequivalent.
- Q. And do you still sell that product today 19
- 25 years later?

- 1 A. Oh, yes.
- Q. Were there any other Klor Con products in
- 3 1983-1984?
- 4 A. Late in '9 -- no, I'm sorry, in '95 -- in 1985,
- 5 we introduced an effervescent. So, in answer to your
- 6 question, no, there were not.
- 7 Q. All right, let's move to the introduction of
- 8 the effervescent. So, in 1985, you introduced a new
- 9 Klor Con product. Is that right?
- 10 A. Yes, we did.
- 11 Q. And tell me a little bit about that product,
- 12 please.
- 13 A. Well, it's the Klor Con effervescent, and we
- 14 found a manufacturer, and we decided to enter it into
- 15 the market, and we thought since we were calling the
- 16 pharmacists anyway on the potassium -- and at that time
- 17 there was a more expensive product on the market, the
- brand was Klor-vess, as I recall -- we had the same
- 19 story. You know, here we are, we have got our brand,
- 20 it's economical, it will save your patients money, and
- 21 so we introduced that product.
- Q. By the way, the name Klor Con, do you have an
- 23 understanding where that came from?
- 24 A. Klor Con was there when I came.
- 25 Q. All right. And the effervescent product, what

- 1 makes it an effervescent? What does that refer to?
- A. Well, it's in an effervescent tablet. It's a
- 3 potassium bicarbonate.
- Q. So, the powder, was it potassium bicarbonate
- 5 that you were selling at this time?
- A. No, the powder's a potassium chloride. The
- 7 effervescent is a potassium bicarbonate.
- 8 Q. But do they treat the same condition, both
- 9 products?
- 10 A. Both products treat hypokalemia. Both deliver
- 11 potassium.
- 12 Q. So, the active ingredient is the potassium?
- 13 A. Potassium.
- Q. I see. And do you recall what the approximate
- 15 cost was of the launch of that product, the Klor Con
- 16 effervescent product?
- 17 A. I did not head up marketing at that time, but
- 18 we had a fairly limited budget, I do know that. It was
- 19 the first time that we were ever going to actually get
- 20 on a plane and fly out and talk to customers face to
- 21 face, and I was one of the first people to do that, and
- 22 so relative to our budget at that time, it seemed like
- we were spending a lot, but I don't know the exact
- 24 dollar amount.
- Q. Are you in a position to estimate the

- 1 approximate launch cost?
- 2 A. Oh, I would -- I am. I mean, by today's
- 3 standard now, having overseen the marketing area, it
- 4 was certainly less than \$100,000.
- 5 Q. And what activities did you undertake in 1995
- 6 to launch the effervescent Klor Con product?
- 7 A. Well, we had started up a national sales
- 8 department with two people who also called on the
- 9 phone, and the three of us went across the country, and
- 10 we sold the effervescent and a newly reformulated
- 11 powder with a more palatable delicious taste to the
- 12 wholesalers and then the chain drugstores.
- 13 Q. So, at the same time there was a reformulation
- of the earlier powder product?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And what happened next? What's the next Klor
- 17 Con product that you introduced?
- A. Well, very late in 1986, we got the first
- 19 approval for -- or we got the approval for Klor Con 8
- and 10, and so we marketed these products as the first
- low-cost alternatives of the wax matrix type of
- 22 product.
- 23 Q. And what's the dosage that is delivered when
- you say 10 and 8 with respect to those products?
- 25 A. Eight milliequivalents and 10 milliequivalents

- 1 of potassium.
- Q. And what sorts of products are these? Are
- 3 these tablets or --
- A. Yes, they're the wax matrix tablet.
- 5 Q. What does "wax matrix" refer to?
- 6 A. Wax matrix refers to the core, and then the
- 7 potassium is leached from the core in your intestine.
- 8 Q. And do you recall when those products were
- 9 launched some of the companies that Upsher-Smith was
- 10 competing against with the 8 and 10 tablet?
- 11 A. Well, the 8 and 10 tablet, the KCl market in
- 12 general was -- in 1986, I believe we would have been
- competing against Abbott, Ciba-Geigy. I don't recall
- 14 all of the different players in that year.
- 15 Q. Were the Klor Con 8 and 10 tablets A-B rated?
- 16 A. No, not when we introduced them. Later, about
- 17 two years later, I think, the Klor Con 8 became A-B
- 18 rated, but the Klor Con 10 is still a B-C rated product
- 19 today.
- 20 O. And what does "B-C rated" refer to?
- 21 A. Well, if you think of a generic equivalent
- 22 product that's A-B rated versus a B-C rated product, an
- 23 A-B rated product would mean that the innovator drug,
- 24 if it was K-Tab in this case, and Klor Con 10, if it
- 25 was A-B rated, that they were bioequivalent and A-B

- 1 rated to one another.
- In this case, K-Tab is B-C rated, and Klor Con
- 3 10 is B-C rated. So, when the pharmacist uses Klor Con
- 4 10 for a K-Tab prescription, they make a therapeutic
- 5 substitution.
- Q. When you say "therapeutic substitution," what
- 7 are you referring to?
- 8 A. I'm referring to them using a product that is
- 9 not A-B rated for the prescription that they receive.
- 10 So, they receive a prescription for K-Tab, but they
- 11 dispense Klor Con 10.
- 12 Q. And what permits the pharmacist to make that
- 13 therapeutic substitution?
- 14 A. Well, most states allow pharmacists to do that
- in their professional judgment, and there are even some
- states that mandate that if there is a lower cost
- 17 alternative that's a therapeutic substitute, you have
- 18 to dispense that.
- 19 Q. Are you familiar with the phrase "state
- 20 substitution laws"? Does that mean anything to you?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And how does that relate to the concept of an
- 23 A-B rating?
- 24 A. The state substitution law would say that, for
- 25 example, the pharmacist, if it is -- in their

- 1 professional judgment, if they deem a product to be a
- 2 suitable alternative, therapeutic substitute, that they
- 3 can dispense that product.
- Q. Now, how, sir, do you drive sales of a product
- 5 when it's not A-B rated but B-C rated as the 8 and 10
- 6 were initially?
- 7 A. Well, again, we go to the pharmacists, and we
- 8 talk about using that, because they can make a
- 9 therapeutic substitution. We go to the managed care
- organizations, and we talk about the economics of using
- our products, the services we provide. And then we
- 12 also go to the physicians.
- 13 For example, a telephone sales rep might call
- 14 an independent pharmacist. They might ask that
- pharmacist, who prescribes most of the products that
- 16 are potassium? And if Dr. Carlson writes most of the
- 17 products and they're stocking our Klor Con, they would
- 18 call the doctor -- ask the pharmacist if they could
- 19 call that doctor. So, there are a number of ways that
- 20 we do that.
- 21 Q. I see. And what is the rating today on the
- 22 Klor Con 10 tablet?
- 23 A. Klor Con 10 is B-C rated.
- Q. And what was it rated in 1997?
- 25 A. It was B-C rated.

1 Q. When did Upsher-Smith develop a detail sales

- 2 force, field sales reps, in other words?
- A. Well, we developed a field force in February of
- 4 2000.
- 5 Q. And how large was the initial detail force?
- 6 A. Fifteen people.
- 7 Q. And what territories were covered by those 15
- 8 people?
- 9 A. Well, the whole country was covered by those 15
- 10 people. I don't recall the exact cities in which they
- 11 were located.
- 12 Q. And what products were being detailed when this
- 13 field sales force was launched?
- 14 A. They were talking to physicians about Pacerone,
- which is our brand of amiodarone, our branded generic,
- and then they were also talking about the Klor Con
- 17 product line with an emphasis on the Klor Con 10, to
- 18 give, again, two 10s written for -- in place of a 20.
- 19 And then they were also talking about Slo-Niacin and
- 20 Niacor.
- 21 Q. Do you have a general understanding of what the
- 22 average length of time one of your field sales reps
- would spend with a doctor?
- A. Face to face?
- 25 Q. Yes.

- 1 A. Well, it could average from what we call a
- 2 30-second detail, which means the doctor says hello to
- 3 you, you get to talk to her until she gets to the room
- 4 and that's it, to a sit-down session where they might
- 5 give you ten minutes. On average, we hope for about
- 6 two or three minutes.
- 7 Q. Do you meet -- in the course of a year, would
- 8 one of these salesmen make multiple calls on the same
- 9 doctor or would they always be calling on different
- 10 doctors?
- 11 A. No, they call on -- multiple calls, they have
- doctors on different schedules. So, for example,
- 13 certain doctors they will call on every four weeks,
- other doctors they will call on every six to eight.
- Q. And how do you identify, when you have only got
- 16 15 field sales reps, which doctors to call on?
- 17 A. We identify them by the high prescribing habits
- 18 that they have. So, we cut it that way. We buy a
- 19 list. We find out who are the high prescribers of
- 20 amiodarone, of potassium products and of lipid-lowering
- 21 agents.
- Q. And let me take those drugs one at a time.
- 23 Amiodarone, what does that do, sir?
- 24 A. Amiodarone is a product for rhythm management
- 25 for your heart. It's indicated for ventricular

- 1 tachycardia.
- Q. And what is your brand name for amiodarone?
- 3 A. Our brand name is Pacerone.
- Q. When did you introduce the Pacerone product
- 5 into the marketplace?
- A. We introduced Pacerone in 1998, I think April
- 7 of 1998, and we introduced a line extension to that,
- 8 Pacerone 400 milligram, last year.
- 9 Q. Was Pacerone in development in the spring of
- 10 1997?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. How has Pacerone done in sales?
- 13 A. Pacerone out-sold all of our initial sales
- 14 projections. It's been a great product for us.
- Q. Can you give us a ballpark so we can have some
- 16 feel what this is?
- 17 A. It's about a \$23 million product.
- Q. And when you say \$23 million, you're talking
- 19 about current sales or 1998 or --
- 20 A. That would be current sales.
- Q. All right. Do you recall the sales in 1998 or
- 22 1999 for Pacerone?
- 23 A. The first year we sold Pacerone, we sold almost
- 24 \$40 million.
- Q. And you mentioned that it regulates rhythms.

- 1 Is it a cardiac drug?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And the other drug that you were initially
- 4 detailing besides the Klor Con was Slo-Niacin, did I
- 5 understand that right?
- 6 A. That's right, and Niacor.
- 7 Q. And how were you detailing Slo-Niacin and
- 8 Niacor at this time, spring of 2000?
- 9 A. Well, we would talk to the physicians about
- 10 their lipid-lowering prescribing habits in their
- 11 patients, and we would talk to them about patients for
- 12 whom niacin would be an appropriate therapy. So, for
- example, we would ask them about how many patients did
- 14 they have that they were treating for H -- low HDL,
- which is an independent risk factor, because there is
- 16 no other agent that raises HDL better than niacin, or
- 17 we would ask them about their patients, most of whom or
- 18 I should say many of whom were already on a
- 19 lipid-lowering drug.
- 20 And so if they had already had a heart attack,
- 21 an MI, myocardial infarction, we would talk to them
- about the new NCEP guidelines and ask them, are you
- able to get your patients down to 100 milligrams per
- 24 deciliter of LDL on a single statin? Are you able to
- 25 do that? And most physicians told us no, we have to

- double the dose, we have to triple the dose. And our
- 2 response was, well, then, you're doubling the cost and
- 3 you're tripling the cost and you're not doing that.
- 4 If you add niacin in conjunction with that,
- 5 then you're going to be able to lower the LDL, reach
- 6 those target guidelines, and raise the HDL. It also
- 7 treats triglycerides, it lowers triglycerides, and it
- 8 also treats Lp(a).
- 9 Q. And you're talking about which product now,
- 10 Slo-Niacin?
- 11 A. Well, I'm talking about niacin, both our Niacor
- 12 as well as Slo-Niacin as a dietary supplement, yes.
- 13 Q. And of the drugs that you were detailing in the
- spring of 2000, were they all prescription drugs?
- 15 A. Slo-Niacin was not a prescription. The Niacor
- is, and the other products were.
- 17 Q. Do you have an understanding of the approximate
- 18 cost for launching your detail sales force in the year
- 19 2000?
- 20 A. I do. I'm going to say it was approximately \$7
- 21 million.
- 22 O. \$7 million?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Doing face-to-face details, did you see any
- 25 effect on Klor Con prescription trends?

- 1 A. Yes, the face-to-face detailing has helped us
- 2 increase the voice that we had out there, but really
- 3 prior to that, we started a direct mail program to
- 4 physicians, and we had a great response, and that's
- 5 when I first started noticing more Klor Con 10 being
- 6 utilized.
- 7 Q. Now, I want to go back now and talk a little
- 8 bit more about the development of the Klor Con
- 9 marketing strategy in potassium.
- 10 Did there come a time when you began to
- introduce private label KCl?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And when I say "KCl," what does that refer to?
- 14 A. Potassium, potassium chloride.
- 15 Q. And tell me a little bit about your private
- 16 label initiative at Upsher-Smith for potassium.
- 17 A. Well, initially we came out with private label
- products for the 8 and 10 wax matrix, and this enabled
- 19 us to offer yet a lower cost generic in that we went to
- 20 Gold Line and Major and other places that really sold a
- wide breadth of generic products, many more products
- than we had, and so it was able to help us to gain
- 23 access into customers and classes of trade where we
- 24 just didn't have -- we just didn't have the breadth of
- 25 products to get in there, and Gold Line did. And so

- 1 that offered -- they then, you know, positioned
- 2 their -- it as one of their generic products.
- 3 And then in addition to that, it helped us
- 4 because we had longer runs -- excuse me, we had longer
- 5 runs in manufacturing. So, there were some internal
- 6 benefits as well in terms of utilizing the capacity
- 7 that we had.
- Q. And I just want to make sure we understand what
- 9 we mean by "private label." When the product would be
- sold to a Major or a Gold Line, who determined the
- 11 resell price of that product?
- 12 A. They did. When we sold it to Major and Gold
- 13 Line, they became competitors with us.
- 14 Q. And why did that make sense, to create new
- 15 competitors?
- 16 A. Well, because again, there were some markets we
- 17 just couldn't get into anyway with ours because we
- didn't have enough product, we didn't have the breadth
- of products. And so in that market, they were able to
- 20 get in where we would not be able to.
- 21 On the other hand, when we would call on the
- 22 phone to independents, we would hear, sorry, I bought
- 23 the Qualitest or I bought the Gold Line product.
- Q. Now, you just mentioned Qualitest. Who is
- 25 Qualitest?

- 1 A. Qualitest is a generic pharmaceutical
- 2 manufacturer. They're -- they're a privately held
- 3 company. We're estimating their sales to be between
- 4 \$300 and \$500 million, and they have presence in
- 5 chains, for example, they have a good relationship with
- 6 Eckerd's, I believe, and CVS. They are also in all the
- 7 wholesalers. They compete for source programs within
- 8 wholesalers, also retail buying groups.
- 9 Q. What were the first potassium products you sold
- 10 to Qualitest under your private label initiative?
- 11 A. We sold them an 8 mEq tablet, a 10 mEq wax
- 12 matrix tablet, and we sold them the 20 milliequivalent
- 13 powder.
- Q. By the way, these generic companies, were they
- 15 larger than Upsher-Smith at this time --
- 16 A. Most of them were --
- 17 Q. -- in terms of sales?
- 18 A. -- much larger than Upsher-Smith.
- 19 Q. I just want to touch briefly on manufacturing.
- I know it's not a core focus for you, but of
- 21 the Klor Con product line, what portions of the product
- line are manufactured at Upsher-Smith?
- 23 A. We manufacture the powder, we manufacture the
- 24 8, the 10, and now our new products, the M10 and the
- 25 M20.

1 Q. I want to change subjects now and talk a little

- 2 bit about just prescribing behavior.
- 3 When does the demand for potassium products
- 4 begin?
- 5 A. Well, the demand begins when a patient goes in
- 6 to a physician and they're treated for hypokalemia, so
- 7 the doctor would write a prescription for KCl.
- Q. And how typically would the doctor prescribe
- 9 potassium?
- 10 A. Well, the dosing ranges really quite a bit,
- 11 anywhere from 15 to maybe 80 milliequivalents. The
- 12 doctor will write a prescription either for a brand or
- they would simply write an open prescription and say
- 14 KCl, 40 mEgs daily.
- Q. When you say 15 to 18 mEq, is that per day?
- 16 A. Did you say 18? I said 15 to 80, 8-0.
- 17 Q. 15 to 8-0?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Thank you for listening.
- 20 Fifteen to 80 mEqs, is that per day?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. And do you have an understanding about what the
- 23 most common or frequent prescriptions tend to be for
- 24 potassium in terms of mEq per day?
- 25 A. Our information would indicate about 40

- 1 milliequivalents.
- 2 Q. So, for a patient taking K-Dur 20, that would
- 3 be maybe morning and evening, is that the way you would
- 4 understand it working?
- 5 A. However they wanted to dose it. It would be
- 6 two.
- 7 Q. And if you were trying to sell against those
- 8 two K-Dur 20s, how would you do that in terms of Klor
- 9 Con 10 in the 1997 time period for that patient?
- 10 A. Again, we would simply tell the physician that
- 11 they're -- if they're breaking the tablet in half
- 12 anyway, you can use two 10, and if -- even if they're
- not and they're interested in having a lower cost
- 14 alternative, we have the Klor Con, and so write for
- 15 Klor Con.
- 16 Q. At the doctor's prescription pad, literally in
- 17 1997, what were some of the things doctors would write
- in a prescription for potassium? Can you give me some
- 19 examples?
- 20 A. They might write, for example, they could write
- 21 "Klor Con, 2 X 10 daily." They could write "K-Dur."
- They could write "KCl 20 milliequivalents, 40
- 23 milliequivalents Q daily."
- Q. If they wrote it without reference to a brand,
- 25 20 mEg per day potassium, how would you get a

- 1 prescription filled with the Upsher product?
- 2 A. At the pharmacy level.
- 3 Q. And how would you go about making sure that
- 4 that occurred?
- 5 A. Well, we called the pharmacists, the
- 6 independent pharmacists, today we have about 23,000
- 7 independent pharmacists profiled, and we call them all
- 8 the time, and so we would -- we would try and make sure
- 9 that all the pharmacists would have a preference for
- 10 our product and use it, and in the national account
- 11 area, Klor Con 10 is in virtually all of the chains.
- 12 Q. You had used a word "profile." What does that
- 13 refer to?
- 14 A. It's a customer base. So, just as -- you know,
- in 1983, when I was calling on the phone and
- 16 introducing here's who Upsher-Smith is and I would
- 17 write down the pharmacist, the name and so forth, over
- 18 the years, we have compiled that information. We don't
- 19 write it down anymore, and we don't put it in a file.
- 20 Today we have it automated. It's in the electronic
- 21 files, part of our customer base.
- 22 Q. Now, if the physician writes the prescription
- for K-Dur 20, is that the end of the story? Have you
- lost the chance to get that prescription filled with
- Upsher-Smith Klor Con in the 1997 time period?

- 1 A. No, no, that's -- that's the opportunity. If
- 2 the physician has written for K-Dur 20, our opportunity
- 3 is to have the pharmacist make a therapeutic
- 4 substitution, and that's why we provide the information
- for them to do that. And then again, there's some
- 6 states that mandate a therapeutic substitution if
- 7 there's a lower-cost alternative that's therapeutically
- 8 equivalent available.
- 9 In addition to that, there were managed care
- 10 programs that said we will not reimburse for a 20 mEq
- 11 tablet when there are any number of generically priced
- 12 products out there. So, that's where -- even if the
- prescription were written that way, there were numerous
- 14 opportunities that we had to have it filled with Klor
- Con 10 or our powder, by the way, or our 8 or our
- 16 effervescent, whatever the choice of the pharmacist or
- 17 the patient was.
- Q. Let's talk now about the scenario involving
- 19 managed care. How would you go about in the 1996-'97
- time period selling Klor Con to managed care?
- 21 A. Well, we would meet with a managed care
- organization, and we would talk about their potassium
- 23 needs. You know, keep in mind that potassium is
- commonly prescribed, and so if you're part of a managed
- 25 care organization, it's going to be one of the more

1 prescribed drugs that you're looking at. And we would

- 2 talk about the economics of having Klor Con 8 and 10
- 3 and the powder and the effervescent.
- And so we would talk to them about having
- 5 ideally a preferred status on a formulary so that when
- 6 you went into the doctor's office, he or she would
- 7 write for Klor Con for you because that was the
- 8 preferred product that that managed care organization
- 9 wanted the doctor to prescribe.
- 10 Q. And can you just define or explain what the
- 11 word "formulary" means in the managed care context at
- 12 this time?
- 13 A. The formulary would be a list of drugs that the
- 14 physicians would have available that would tell them
- what products the managed care would pay for, what --
- 16 and those would be the formulary items, and then within
- 17 those formulary items, that dictates what you or I as
- 18 consumers, if you're part of a plan, what you would
- 19 have a co-pay on. So, the co-pay might be lower for a
- 20 generic and it might be very high for a branded product
- if they were both on the formulary.
- 22 But there's another scenario where the branded
- 23 product won't be on the formulary at all, which means
- 24 you would tell your patient, if you want this product,
- 25 you have to pay for it yourself, because your plan is

- 1 not going to cover it, but I can write two Klor Con 10
- and your plan will cover that, and you'll have a
- 3 co-pay.
- Q. In 1997, did some managed care plans not cover
- 5 K-Dur 20?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. In 1997, were you successful in getting Klor
- 8 Con 8 and 10 listed in some managed care formularies?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Would you explain how the role of co-pays might
- influence the patient's preference for a particular
- 12 brand of potassium?
- 13 A. Well, if you were to get a prescription and
- 14 you -- let's say you got a prescription for K-Dur 20 in
- this case, and you went into the pharmacist, the
- 16 pharmacist would then go back, they would look at your
- insurance card if you were part of that, and their
- 18 record would pop up to say whether or not you were --
- 19 that your plan would pay for this.
- 20 If it wouldn't, then they would come back to
- 21 you and they might say, I can fill this with K-Dur. It
- 22 might cost you \$70 -- and I'm just using an arbitrary
- 23 number here -- it might cost you \$70; however, I do
- 24 have something that your plan does cover. It's Klor
- 25 Con 10, for example, and there's a \$6 co-pay. Would

- 1 you prefer to have K-Dur in this case, and then you
- 2 will pay for that because your plan doesn't cover it,
- 3 or would you prefer to have the Klor Con, which is
- 4 covered and you'll have a \$6 co-pay?
- 5 Q. And in your experience, how did that influence
- 6 the patients in their choice of potassium?
- 7 A. Well, you know, again, seven out of ten
- 8 patients during that time period were getting
- 9 prescriptions for something other than the K-Dur, so
- 10 the doctors were either writing for something other
- 11 than K-Dur or the patients -- or they were writing for
- 12 it and seven out of ten patients were having it filled
- with something that was other than K-Dur. So, from our
- 14 viewpoint, it was very successful.
- 15 Q. In general -- and again, I'm not asking for a
- 16 medical opinion -- but in general, your understanding
- 17 as the head of sales and marketing at Upsher-Smith, how
- long does someone take a potassium supplement?
- 19 A. You can be on potassium for the rest of your
- 20 life once you've been diagnosed with hypertension if
- you're going to be on a diuretic. My aunt has been
- 22 taking Klor Con, I'm proud to say, for 12 years. She's
- 23 78 years old, and I don't see any time -- I shouldn't
- 24 say, I'm not a medical expert, but anyway, she has been
- 25 taking it for 12 years.

1 Q. Is that typical or common that people would be

- 2 taking the drug for years, that it's a long-term
- 3 prescription?
- A. It's a chronic therapy; it's not an acute
- 5 therapy.
- Q. Do the patients taking potassium products tend
- 7 to be somewhat cost-sensitive?
- 8 A. Yes, that was part of our receptivity from the
- 9 physicians. As I said, some of these patients are on
- 10 as many as seven or eight prescriptions, and if they're
- older, they're on seven other prescriptions, then being
- able to save money in a potassium therapy that you're
- going to take for the rest of your life would be very
- 14 beneficial.
- Q. Now, in the 1997 time period, what's the best
- 16 thing that you at Upsher-Smith would want written for a
- 17 potassium prescription? What would be the best outcome
- 18 coming from the doctor's office?
- 19 A. I would want Klor Con 10 DAW.
- O. What does DAW mean?
- 21 A. It means dispense this as written.
- 22 O. I see.
- Now, sir, there has been some discussion in
- this courtroom about switching costs, and I just want
- 25 to ask you a couple of questions about that concept.

1 At the time the doctor is meeting with the

- 2 patient and writing the initial prescription for
- 3 potassium, what's the switching cost between writing
- 4 Klor Con or K-Dur or another brand or something else?
- 5 A. There are no switching costs.
- Q. All right. Let's say that the doctor instead
- 7 writes the prescription for K-Dur 20 and that gets sent
- 8 off to the pharmacy. What are the switching costs for
- 9 a pharmacist to substitute in 1997 two Klor Con 10s for
- 10 the K-Dur 20 prescription?
- 11 A. Well, there are no switching costs to the
- 12 consumer. The pharmacist is on the phone with the
- doctor and the doctor's office all the time. That's
- 14 what they do. And so they are -- it could be as simple
- as I can't read this. It can be did you mean 20 mEgs a
- 16 day? Did you mean -- whatever, they are constantly
- 17 talking. Most of the calls they make are usually on
- insurance questions, but at any rate, they're on the
- 19 phone anyway with the doctor. I don't know what a
- 20 switching cost would be, because they're calling them
- 21 all the time anyway.
- Our experience is that they call in, they talk
- 23 with -- they don't even talk with the doctor
- 24 necessarily. They simply call the nurse and say I can
- 25 prescribe -- I can dispense two Klor Con 10s, the

1 patient is interested in saving money or it's what I

- 2 have, and they're given permission to do that.
- 3 Q. Is the phrase "switching costs" used in your
- 4 industry?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. Is the concept of a switching cost discussed in
- 7 your industry?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. To the consumer, far from there being switching
- 10 costs, can there be savings when substitutions are made
- 11 at the pharmacy level?
- 12 A. Absolutely. If you came in with a prescription
- for K-Dur and your pharmacist called the doctor and
- said, I can give you Klor Con 10, then you've just
- saved the cost of the brand to a generically priced
- 16 product.
- 17 Q. This business of getting the pharmacist to make
- a therapeutic substitution, was that part of your
- 19 business model for potassium in 1997?
- 20 A. It's how we built the potassium model.
- Q. And by the way, just for the pharmacist, are
- there significant switching costs experienced by the
- 23 pharmacist to substitute between two different brands
- of potassium?
- 25 A. No. For example, if you're in -- if a

- 1 pharmacists was in a state where there was mandatory
- 2 therapeutic substitution, the pharmacist substitutes
- 3 that product. There is no cost involved. They just
- 4 substitute the product.
- 5 Q. Is it common or does it happen that sometimes
- 6 pharmacists get payments or incentives to make
- 7 substitutions?
- 8 A. I don't know of any -- I don't know that you
- 9 would incentivise a pharmacist to make a substitution.
- 10 Q. Well, are there any discounts or promotions
- 11 that are paid to national chains or other --
- 12 A. That's a different -- yes, that's a different
- scenario. A chain, for example, or a managed care
- program might have market share programs where really
- 15 the vendor is -- might pay something to the chain for
- 16 market share gains, and I don't know that the
- 17 pharmacist would receive that, but that might be
- 18 something worked out between a national chain and a
- 19 vendor.
- 20 Q. And might that create a financial incentive to
- switch prescriptions between two different brands?
- 22 A. Absolutely.
- Q. How about managed care, are you familiar with
- or have you ever at Upsher-Smith made a payment or an
- 25 incentive or a promotional payment to get listed on the

- 1 formulary of a particular managed care plan?
- 2 A. We have, and there are -- they're, again, what
- 3 you would call market share programs where you could
- 4 take a baseline of what your market share was and then
- 5 if you can increase that, there would be some type of
- 6 rebate involved.
- 7 Q. We talked about this earlier, but I want to
- 8 shift gears and hit a few questions.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. Going back to this concept of two 10s for a 20.
- When you say 20, before September 1, 2001, you're
- 12 talking about K-Dur 20?
- 13 A. That's right.
- Q. All right, and we're talking about potassium,
- 15 right?
- 16 A. That's right.
- 17 Q. In the period 1995 to 2000, Mr. Dritsas, did
- you consistently market two of your Klor Con 10 mEq
- 19 tablets against K-Dur 20?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Was there any difference in terms of
- 22 performance between your Klor Con 10 wax matrix product
- 23 and the K-Dur 20 in terms of delivering potassium?
- A. No, all the -- all of the potassium products
- 25 are therapeutically interchangeable. They all deliver

- 1 potassium.
- Q. When you market two 10s versus a K-Dur 20, does
- 3 the patient take the Klor Con 10 at the same time --
- 4 the two tablets at the same time they take the K-Dur
- 5 20?
- 6 MS. BOKAT: Objection, Your Honor. I don't see
- 7 that we've got any foundation for this witness knowing
- 8 how the patients take the pills.
- 9 MR. GIDLEY: I'd be happy to lay that
- 10 foundation, Your Honor.
- 11 JUDGE CHAPPELL: I'll sustain that.
- 12 MR. GIDLEY: And again, Your Honor, I'm not
- offering him as an expert. I'm offering him as a fact
- 14 witness, and we're simply asking Mr. Dritsas about his
- 15 sales and marketing background.
- 16 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Well, and as I said, under the
- 17 federal rules, actually Rule 701, opinions he gives us
- have to be based on perception, not on expertise, not
- 19 on technical or specialized knowledge, and I think if
- 20 where you're going is his observation or his knowledge
- 21 based on his marketing experience, I'll allow that.
- 22 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Sir, let me start back. For many years you've
- 24 been marketing two 10s -- Klor Con 10s against the
- 25 K-Dur 20. Is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And in coming up with that marketing campaign,
- 3 did the people at Upsher-Smith, including your
- 4 department, give some thought to the practical
- 5 implementation of what the patient would be doing with
- 6 the two different products?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And did you envision a typical scenario where
- 9 the patient would be taking your drug rather than the
- 10 K-Dur product from Schering?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And in tailoring and writing marketing messages
- and in detailing to doctors, was there a typical
- scenario that you had in mind for the use and
- administration of the Klor Con 10 mEq tablet against
- 16 the K-Dur 20 tablet?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. And sir, at Upsher-Smith, when you're detailing
- 19 and making telephone calls to the pharmacists, what was
- 20 your understanding of what patients would be doing when
- 21 they used your product rather than the K-Dur product?
- MS. BOKAT: Objection, Your Honor. We have
- 23 seen that the Upsher-Smith marketing people sat at
- 24 Upsher-Smith and envisioned how a patient might use
- 25 this product, but we still don't see any foundation for

- 1 knowing exactly how they did take it.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I'll sustain that. If you can
- demonstrate that he has knowledge based on his contact
- 4 with pharmacists, information that was relayed on to
- 5 him and he based marketing decisions on that, I'll
- 6 allow that.
- 7 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 8 Q. Sir, do pharmacists talk to patients about how
- 9 they take prescription drugs?
- 10 A. Yes, the pharmacists that we spoke to and, of
- 11 course, the physicians that we spoke to.
- 12 Q. You mentioned earlier that you had a database
- of pharmacists. Is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And today, approximately how many pharmacist
- 16 contacts are in that database?
- 17 A. Well, there are 23,000 pharmacies, and then
- 18 each pharmacy might have multiple pharmacists working
- 19 there.
- 20 Q. And sir, for every entry in your database, was
- 21 there at least one phone contact between Upsher-Smith
- 22 and the particular pharmacist that's in your database?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Many times, are there multiple contacts?
- 25 A. Usually there are multiple contacts.

- 1 O. Are these calls that last 10 or 15 seconds or
- 2 have you had and your staff had the opportunity to talk
- 3 to pharmacists about what goes on with their patients
- 4 in administering Upsher-Smith products?
- 5 A. We have a very good relationship with many of
- 6 those customers that we've honed over the last 19
- 7 years, and so we have ample opportunities to talk about
- 8 their business, what their patients or customers' needs
- 9 are, their physicians.
- 10 Q. Do you get feedback that's valuable to the
- 11 company in the sales and marketing department from what
- 12 you learn from these pharmacists?
- 13 A. Yes, it helps us very much to craft our
- message, to help us learn about unmet needs.
- Q. And is some of the feedback that you get
- 16 feedback that the pharmacist is relating from their
- 17 patient experience?
- 18 A. Yes, it would be.
- 19 Q. And when we talk about the patient experience,
- that would include potassium products?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And we would also be including Klor Con 10 and
- 8 mEq tablets. Is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. Would your staff and you yourself receive

1 feedback from the field on how patients are taking the

- 2 drugs?
- 3 A. Yes, I've personally talked to doctors when
- 4 I've been out in the field.
- 5 Q. And does that -- is that feedback used at
- 6 Upsher-Smith to craft and tailor sales and marketing
- 7 messages?
- 8 A. Yes, it is.
- 9 Q. Is it also used in a company your size to
- 10 tailor what your future marketing and sales efforts and
- 11 initiatives would be?
- 12 A. Yes, it would be.
- 13 Q. And in connection with that feedback, do you
- have an understanding of the typical scenario of what
- patients do when you succeed in getting the pharmacist
- to substitute two Klor Con 10s for a K-Dur 20?
- 17 A. Yes, I do. The -- if your doctor prescribed 20
- mEqs a day and you were to go from K-Dur, for example,
- 19 to Klor Con, you would take two of the Klor Con at the
- 20 same time you'd take your K-Dur. There would be no
- 21 special instructions telling you to separate them, take
- 22 them at different times. Your doctor would simply say
- 23 if you take it every morning, then take two 10 mEq
- 24 tablets every morning.
- 25 Q. At the same time you would have taken the K-Dur

- 1 20?
- 2 A. Whenever you were taking the K-Dur 20, you can
- 3 take this. There is no therapeutic reason why you need
- 4 to alter that or change anything that you were doing
- 5 before.
- Q. Is there any special group of hypersensitives,
- 7 hypokalemics, say measured by age, sex, other patient
- 8 characteristics, that can only take a K-Dur 20 and
- 9 cannot take Klor Con products, such as Klor Con 10?
- 10 A. No, I've never heard of any special group that
- 11 needs a special kind of potassium.
- 12 Q. Let me talk about patient compliance.
- Now, are you familiar -- do you have an
- 14 understanding of the kind of marketing messages that in
- the '96-'97 time period Schering was using for their
- 16 K-Dur 20 product?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. What's your understanding of the kind of
- 19 messages that Schering was using to drive sales of
- 20 K-Dur 20 against Klor Con?
- 21 A. Well, of course, we kept our eye on the K-Dur
- 22 product and on Schering quite a bit, and their basic
- 23 message was a marketing message, and that was based on
- 24 convenience, you know, you should prescribe this
- 25 product because it's convenient, and along with that

- 1 there was a little bit of the -- for example, if you
- 2 were going to do 20 -- prescribe 20 mEqs a day, you'd
- 3 get to prescribe only one tablet, so it's convenient,
- 4 and there's a patient convenience story.
- 5 And then they heavily promoted it, and then
- 6 they supported it with samples, and that was how they
- 7 marketed it as far as we could tell.
- Q. In reality, was there a big actual edge between
- 9 the K-Dur 20 and the Klor Con 10 products in terms of
- 10 patient compliance?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. How have patients tolerated Klor Con 10 mEq
- 13 tablets?
- 14 A. Fine.
- 15 Q. Has there been research done into the effects
- on patients over some period of time for Klor Con 10?
- 17 A. I'm -- no, I'm not aware of any research on any
- of the products with regard to compliance.
- 19 Q. How about comparative studies? Are you aware
- 20 of any patient compliance studies that compare K-Dur 20
- 21 versus two Klor Con 10 mEq tablets?
- 22 A. No, I'm not aware of any studies.
- Q. Going back to 1997, what was the approximate
- 24 market share of Schering's K-Dur 20 product in 1997?
- 25 A. As I recall in 1997, they had about 30 percent

- of the prescriptions, roughly.
- 2 Q. As the head of sales and marketing for
- 3 Upsher-Smith, how did you view the potassium market in
- 4 June of 1997?
- 5 A. Well, we viewed it as the KCl market, which
- 6 included a number of products. There were multiple
- 7 competitors, all with different types of promotional
- 8 and pricing strategies, you know, some of whom, like
- 9 K-Dur, we viewed as being aggressive with the doctors,
- 10 competitively priced. Then you had other products
- offered by Apothecon, for example, that were really
- 12 aggressively priced. They weren't promoted to
- 13 physicians. There were just a number of different
- 14 players, and it was a fairly crowded market.
- 15 Q. Let's go to another topic. I want to talk to
- 16 you a little bit about this patent lawsuit.
- 17 Did there come a time when you learned that
- there was a patent lawsuit that had been brought
- against Upsher-Smith concerning the Klor Con M20
- 20 product?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And briefly, what was the Klor Con M20 product?
- 23 A. The Klor Con M20 was our 20 milliequivalent
- 24 micro-dispersible product, potassium chloride product.
- 25 Q. Did the existence of the lawsuit have any

1 impact on -- any direct impact on your department in

- 2 1996 or '97?
- 3 A. Absolutely. We were -- you have to think of
- 4 the size company we were at that time, but we were
- 5 spending a tremendous amount of resources. I was not
- 6 aware of any other major litigation that we had ever
- 7 been involved in, and I know from a marketing
- 8 perspective, it affected my budget, it affected what I
- 9 had, the resources I had available just to promote the
- 10 products that I had.
- 11 Q. How did it affect your budget?
- 12 MS. BOKAT: Excuse me. I would like to object
- to the pending question and move to strike the earlier
- 14 answer. During the discovery phase of this case, we
- issued a request to Upsher-Smith for financial
- 16 information. They were reluctant to provide that, so
- 17 we struck an agreement with Upsher-Smith that they
- 18 would not put their financial condition -- would not
- 19 raise it as a defense in this matter.
- 20 What this witness is now testifying about is
- 21 the financial impact of the lawsuit on his department's
- resources and budget. So, I object, because we were
- 23 denied discovery on it, with the agreement that they
- 24 would not be raising it.
- 25 MR. GIDLEY: Let me address that, Your Honor.

- 1 My questions go to opportunity costs, which are true
- for Exxon-Mobil, Schering-Plough, Abbott or
- 3 Upsher-Smith; that is, all resources within a
- 4 corporation trade off against one another. I'm not
- 5 arguing that the absolute size of Upsher-Smith is at
- 6 stake here. My questions go to the uses they put to
- 7 money between litigation or other parties, the
- 8 opportunity costs. That's true of any business.
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Did you enter into the
- 10 agreement that Ms. Bokat just discussed?
- MR. GIDLEY: My colleagues did, Your Honor, and
- 12 I think Mr. Curran is better placed to address it.
- MR. CURRAN: Yes, Your Honor, I believe the
- 14 agreement is memorialized in writing. Perhaps if Ms.
- Bokat has that, we can show that to the Court, and I
- 16 think that will indicate that the agreement was we
- 17 would not use historical financial records as a defense
- to why Upsher-Smith entered into the licensing
- 19 agreement, nothing to do with the impact of the patent
- 20 litigation expenses on operations and so forth. If Ms.
- 21 Bokat would be kind enough to show the written
- 22 memorialization of the agreement, I'm sure that point
- 23 can be established.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I don't need to get into an
- 25 agreement between the parties. What I am going to do

- 1 is ask both sides to review that and review this
- 2 response during the next break and let me know if you
- 3 want to renew your objection. So, I'm going to
- 4 withhold ruling at this time. I can always disregard
- 5 this answer if I need to.
- 6 MR. GIDLEY: Very good, Your Honor. I can move
- 7 on to another line of questioning.
- 8 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 9 Q. Did there come a time when you learned that the
- 10 patent lawsuit between Schering-Plough and Upsher-Smith
- 11 had been settled?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And do you recall approximately when that was?
- 14 A. I believe it was June of 1997.
- Q. And were you familiar at that time with the
- 16 Hatch-Waxman Act in broad terms?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. And was it your -- what was your understanding
- 19 about the effect of the Schering-Plough/Upsher-Smith
- 20 settlement in terms of whether or not you would get the
- 21 180 days exclusivity?
- 22 A. My understanding was that as a result of
- 23 settling and not going to court and prevailing, that we
- lost the opportunity or we lost the 180 days
- 25 exclusivity. That's how it was told to me.

- 1 Q. What is your best recollection at the time, in
- June of 1997, of what you believed would be the effect
- 3 on the 180 days exclusivity had you litigated the case
- 4 to a successful resolution; that is, that you won the
- 5 lawsuit without a settlement?
- A. I was told and I believed that if we won the
- 7 lawsuit without a settlement, we would get 180 days
- 8 exclusivity on the market, which was kind of set up as
- 9 a result for companies who did fight it out and did
- 10 prevail.
- 11 Q. Did there come a time later when you learned
- 12 that, in fact, you would be getting 180 days
- exclusivity with respect to the M20 product?
- 14 A. Well, a couple years later, yes.
- Q. All right. And what is your understanding
- 16 sitting in the courtroom today as to the beginning and
- end of the 180-day period? And I -- what's your
- 18 understanding?
- 19 A. Today?
- 20 Q. Yes, sir.
- 21 A. We did get the 180 days. It ends February
- 22 28th.
- Q. And the period began when?
- 24 A. I'm sorry, the period began September 1st of
- 25 '01.

1 Q. When did you first become eligible to market

- 2 Klor Con M20?
- 3 A. On September 1st of '01.
- Q. Was there any delay between your eligibility to
- 5 market the drug and the actual marketing efforts by
- 6 Upsher-Smith?
- 7 A. No. In fact, we went out and started talking
- 8 to our customers before then.
- 9 O. Tell me a little bit about that. What did
- 10 customers tell you when you began to premarket the Klor
- 11 Con M20 product?
- MS. BOKAT: Objection on hearsay, Your Honor.
- MR. GIDLEY: Well, I'm not offering it, Your
- 14 Honor, for anything more than his state of mind in
- 15 launching the product line as the head of sales and
- 16 marketing. We're not --
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: So, it makes no difference to
- you whether or not what the customers said to him was
- 19 true or was false. You're merely offering it because
- 20 it was said?
- MR. GIDLEY: That's right.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: With that understanding, I'll
- overrule the objection since he's just defined it as
- 24 nonhearsay.
- 25 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, can you repeat the

- 1 question?
- 2 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 3 Q. I'd be happy to.
- 4 Can you tell me about some of the discussions
- 5 you personally had with customers before September 1
- 6 about the M20 product line?
- 7 A. I can. With -- we knew that we would be able
- 8 to launch the product on September 1st, and you can't
- 9 simply go out on September 1st and expect all of your
- 10 customers to purchase the product and put it in their
- 11 system. It takes a certain amount of time in order for
- 12 them to set item numbers, work out the logistics,
- assign the things that they're going to do internally.
- On average, for example, wholesalers like 60
- days notice. Chains like at least 30 but prefer 60 as
- 16 well. And so prior to actually launching the product,
- 17 Tom Burke, who's my director of sales, and I went out,
- and we talked to some of our customers, and our job
- 19 early on was just to find out if we could get an idea
- 20 of what they would intend to do with this so that we
- 21 could better forecast and make sure that we could meet
- 22 the needs that they had.
- 23 And so we talked to a number of different
- 24 customers, we didn't talk to everybody, and we went
- 25 into wholesalers, for an example, we chose a couple of

1 chains to go to, like CVS and Long's, and then we also

- 2 talked to some managed care.
- In general, people were excited. I think by
- 4 that time it was public knowledge that we had an
- 5 approval, but we did find out some things that
- 6 surprised us regarding --
- 7 Q. Let's hear a little bit about that.
- 8 A. Well, for example, we shared with some
- 9 market -- with them some of our market projections in
- 10 terms of what we thought we could do, and a number of
- our customers pointed out to us that we are dealing
- 12 with a company that for many customers really thinks
- like a generic, and so the pricing assumptions you're
- 14 using and the other things don't really reflect the
- type of conditions that they have with us. So --
- 16 Q. And what company were these discussions focused
- 17 on?
- 18 A. This was the -- I was at Bergen, for example,
- 19 and we were talking about Schering-Plough and the K-Dur
- 20 product, and Bergen, for example, Chris Dougherty and
- 21 Fred Sterns, said, you know, this is great, we love you
- 22 guys, we're really behind you, but it's just our
- 23 opinion, we think you're being overly optimistic in
- terms of what kind of market share you're going to be
- able to capture, because, you know, you're dealing with

1 a company that has a lot of resources. They deal in

- 2 many ways like a generic company.
- 3 So, you have some -- some false assumptions in
- 4 there, if you will, in terms of what you think you're
- 5 going to be able to share, and that has to do with
- 6 market conditions, breadth of products, what they're
- 7 allowed to -- what they're allowed to do on that.
- 8 Q. What did you do when you returned to
- 9 Upsher-Smith after your visit with Bergen?
- 10 A. I talked to John Adams, our product manager,
- 11 and I asked him to moderate the market share down. I
- 12 believe we had, after the pipeline and everything else,
- 13 I think we were looking at having about a 50 percent
- 14 market share, and I asked him to moderate that down
- around 35 with the explanation that they're far more
- 16 competitive on their pricing within certain customers
- 17 and they have the resources that we don't in order to
- do things, and I just wasn't aware of that before.
- 19 Q. And I'm sorry, you said market share, are you
- 20 talking about the 20 mEq segment? What are you
- 21 referring to?
- 22 A. Yes, I'm talking about that segment.
- 23 Q. Now, did there come a point in time when -- I
- 24 want to go back to your meeting. You mentioned two
- 25 gentlemen, two gentlemen from Bergen. What were their

- 1 names again?
- 2 A. Actually a gentleman, Fred Sterns, and a woman
- 3 named Chris Dougherty.
- Q. I'm sorry. And they worked for Bergen?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And what kind of company is Bergen?
- 7 A. Bergen is a wholesaler. It is now part of
- 8 AmeriSource Bergen, the largest wholesaler and
- 9 distributor in the world.
- 10 Q. And how does this wholesaler fit into this
- world of pharmacists? Who are their customers?
- 12 A. Well, they're a distributor in this case, so
- their customer could be chain pharmacists, it could be
- independent pharmacists, long-term care, nursing home,
- they have their own mail order facility.
- Q. And this comment about you're up against a
- 17 company that thinks like a generic, what company were
- 18 they referring to?
- 19 A. Schering-Plough.
- Q. And what product were they referring to?
- 21 A. K-Dur.
- 22 O. Is that both 10 and 20?
- 23 A. It was both 10 and 20. We were focusing mostly
- 24 on the 20.
- Q. So, when you got back to Upsher-Smith after the

- 1 Bergen meeting, what were the things that you did?
- 2 A. Well, we came back -- certainly because we
- 3 heard it from more than one customer, we came back with
- 4 a little bit more of a sense of what we were really
- 5 going to be up against, and so I realized that some of
- 6 our pricing assumptions, some of our things that we had
- 7 put into the models weren't necessarily accurate. They
- 8 never are, they're just guesses, but it gave me a
- 9 better idea of what we were going to be facing, and to
- 10 that extent, I just asked the product manager to
- 11 moderate the market share based on the input that we
- 12 had received from these customers.
- 13 Q. You said there were multiple companies. Were
- there other companies that said similar things about
- 15 Schering?
- 16 A. Oh, ves. Bob James at McKesson told me the
- 17 same thing. When we were at CVS, they mentioned that.
- 18 Some of the -- one managed care organization, and I
- 19 don't recall which one it was, had similar feedback in
- 20 terms of with the arrangement that we have right now
- 21 with -- the market share arrangement that we have right
- 22 now with Key/Schering on K-Dur, I can't imagine that
- your product would be of interest to us.
- Q. Did this information --
- MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, request for

- 1 clarification. Was that last answer just for the
- 2 purposes of Upsher's perception or was it offered for
- 3 the truth of what the customer said to Upsher-Smith
- 4 representatives?
- 5 MR. GIDLEY: I offer it for the state of mind
- of the head of marketing and sales, not for the
- 7 underlying truth of the matter asserted.
- 8 MS. BOKAT: Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: You need to listen closely
- 10 also to the question. For example, that last question
- 11 would have required just a yes or no answer, and then
- 12 you went on and explained and gave more information,
- and so that all parties have a chance to object --
- 14 THE WITNESS: Okay, I see.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: -- you need to answer the
- 16 question that is pending. Thank you.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 19 Q. Before you had these discussions -- let me back
- 20 up one step.
- 21 When did these discussions take place with
- 22 McKesson and Bergen, can you place them in an
- 23 approximate time frame?
- 24 A. The discussions started late in 2000, and then
- 25 they went into 2001.

1 Q. And were these face-to-face meetings or

- 2 telephone calls?
- 3 A. Face-to-face meetings.
- 4 Q. Typically at the customer's office?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. And before this time, in potassium,
- 7 let's say in 1997, in selling potassium, would you
- 8 ordinarily know what your competitors' actual prices
- 9 were to customers?
- 10 A. No. No, we really don't know their actual
- 11 pricing. On a rare occasion, a single customer might
- share with you, I'm paying this for a product, but we
- don't know.
- Q. But typically in 1997, you wouldn't have known
- the actual sales price of competitive products?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Now, sir, is there a phrase in the industry
- 18 called "ASP" or some jargon about ASP?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. What is ASP in the pharmaceutical industry and
- 21 particularly with reference to potassium?
- 22 A. ASP is the average selling price.
- Q. And does ASP reflect the actual net price that
- 24 a customer is paying for a potassium product?
- 25 A. No. There --

- 1 Q. Why not?
- 2 A. There -- I'm sorry.
- 3 Q. That's okay, I'll ask you another question.
- 4 Why not?
- 5 A. There are several factors that aren't included
- 6 when you look at average selling price. For example,
- 7 if you set up a deal or you send free goods to a
- 8 customer or you had a market share program, volume
- 9 discounts aren't reflected in that, any promotional
- dollars that you would provide or any type of other
- 11 volume incentives or terms, cash terms, none of that
- 12 would be included in the -- in the average selling
- 13 price.
- Q. I want to direct your attention now to really
- the launch of the M20 product line around September 1,
- 16 2001. In the time period September 1, 2001 to December
- 17 31, 2001, could you state for the record the companies
- 18 that were selling 20 mEq tablets of potassium.
- 19 A. Yes, there were four companies. Key/Schering,
- 20 Warrick, Qualitest and Upsher-Smith.
- 21 Q. And who is Warrick?
- 22 A. Warrick is a generic arm of Key/Schering.
- Q. All right. And Qualitest is a generic firm.
- 24 Is that correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. And sir, when did you begin selling product to

- 2 Oualitest?
- 3 A. December.
- 4 O. Of 2001?
- 5 A. I'm sorry, of 2001, yes.
- Q. And can you estimate roughly what kind of
- 7 quantities you've sold to Qualitest in that month?
- 8 A. It was about 20 percent of our production that
- 9 month.
- 10 Q. Twenty percent of what production?
- 11 A. It was 20 percent of our M20 tablet and M10
- 12 production.
- 13 Q. Are the tablets identical between the Qualitest
- private label and your Klor Con M20 product?
- 15 A. That's a very good question, and to my
- 16 knowledge, they are. I would -- I would have to say
- 17 that if there's a signifier or something on the tablet,
- on the back, there might be for Qualitest. Typically
- 19 there is, but for my intents and purposes, they're the
- 20 same tablet.
- Q. Is it your understanding that the Qualitest
- 22 product and the M20 product use the same production
- 23 facilities?
- A. Yes, they do.
- 25 Q. Is your product, the M20, scored?

- 1 A. Yes, it is.
- 2 Q. And what does it mean to have a scored
- 3 pharmaceutical product?
- 4 A. It means that there's a line, and then the
- 5 product can be broken in half.
- 6 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, I have just published
- 7 to complaint counsel a bottle, 500-tablet bottle of the
- 8 potassium chloride extended release tablets, USP 20 mEq
- 9 potassium, prescription only. This label is in the
- 10 witness exhibit, but I am physically holding the bottle
- 11 now and would request permission to approach the
- 12 witness.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Do you have a prescription for
- 14 that, Mr. Gidley?
- MR. GIDLEY: I do not, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Treat it with care, please.
- 17 Yes, you may approach.
- 18 MR. GIDLEY: I believe my office is in
- 19 compliance with FDA rules, but I would prefer not to be
- 20 audited at this time.
- 21 May I approach?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- Is there an objection to this bottle, Ms.
- 24 Bokat?
- 25 MS. BOKAT: No, Your Honor. I got my share.

- 1 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 2 MR. GIDLEY: May I, Your Honor?
- 3 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, but you have to retrieve
- 4 those as soon as you're finished.
- 5 MR. GIDLEY: Absolutely.
- 6 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 7 Q. Mr. Dritsas, if you would, would you examine
- 8 the tablet I just handed you --
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Do you think I need four of
- 10 these, Mr. Gidley?
- MR. GIDLEY: If you're like anyone in my
- office, in a few minutes you'll fidget and break at
- 13 least one or two.
- 14 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 15 Q. Sir, could you examine for the record the
- 16 tablet I've just handed you?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. And sir, would you describe what the tablet
- 19 looks like for the record?
- 20 A. Well, it's a whitish oblong capsule-shaped
- 21 tablet. It's scored on one side, and it says, "US 20"
- 22 on the other.
- 23 Q. And sir, does this look identical to the M20 or
- is it different in any respect that you're aware of?
- 25 A. It looks like the M20.

1 Q. So, the M20 has the US on it. Is that correct?

- 2 A. I don't recall what the imprint is on the M20.
- 3 Q. All right. And this bottle would have been
- 4 produced at your facility. Is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. And again, for the record, you're
- 7 holding the Qualitest tablet, 20 mEq?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And it's scored?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And what color is it?
- 12 A. Whitish, off white.
- 13 Q. And sir, why did you sell product to Qualitest
- despite the existence of this 180-day period?
- 15 A. Well, much for the same reason that we've
- 16 always extended our potassium line into other generic
- 17 manufacturers. Qualitest has some advantage of breadth
- of products, of generic products, and therefore, they
- deal with some customers that we don't, and many of the
- 20 same reasons. It's an all -- it's a way in which
- 21 customers who are strictly looking for a generic from a
- 22 generic house can get our product. There's economies
- of scale, I believe, in just producing more product.
- 24 And so there's -- it's really the same rationale from
- 25 my viewpoint.

- 1 Q. Does Qualitest control its own pricing of this
- 2 product or do you have any influence over the pricing?
- A. No influence over the pricing. Once they're in
- 4 the market, we effectively compete with Qualitest.
- 5 Q. I want to talk a little bit about some of your
- 6 launch activities for the M20.
- 7 Sir, did you personally and did your department
- 8 take steps to prepare for the launch of the Klor Con
- 9 M20 product?
- 10 A. Yes, we did.
- 11 Q. And you've talked a little bit about some of
- 12 your visits. Are there other steps that your
- department took in launching the Klor Con M20 product
- 14 line?
- 15 A. Yes, our national account group, for example,
- 16 went out and met with the wholesaler/chain accounts in
- 17 order to get an idea of their initial orders and to
- facilitate everything that we needed to do so that on
- 19 September 1st we could ship product.
- 20 Q. So, these customer discussions, the business --
- 21 part of the business purpose was to figure out how much
- 22 product to produce. Is that correct?
- 23 A. That's right.
- Q. Has the Klor Con M20 product sold well in your
- 25 view?

- 1 A. It's sold very well, but -- it's sold well.
- 2 Prior to the launch of the 20 on September 1st, when we
- 3 were going out and talking to customers, the one thing
- 4 that affected this market from my perspective was in
- 5 the summer, there was apparently a lack of availability
- of the K-Dur product, and so during that same time
- 7 period, when you asked earlier were you going out and
- 8 were you talking with customers, we were, and what we
- 9 found in our telephone sales calls is that many of the
- independent pharmacists weren't able to get K-Dur, and
- 11 this was prior to September 1.
- 12 So, this resulted in an increased demand for
- our Klor Con 8 and 10 products, and we saw that -- we
- saw that begin in the early summer. It really peaked
- for us, for example, in August, we sold twice as much
- of that product as we had predicted, and again in
- 17 October.
- Q. And when you say 8 and 10, are we talking about
- 19 the wax matrix Klor Con product?
- 20 A. We are. So, in answer to your question now,
- 21 when we went out to talk to our customers, we had
- 22 this -- we had customers, for example, like Walgreens
- 23 and Rite Aid who were actually switching every K-Dur
- 24 prescription for two 10s, because they had the two 10s
- in the warehouse, they couldn't get any K-Dur 20

1 product, but they were getting prescriptions for K-Dur

- 2 20.
- 3 So, John Zeibel, for example, talked to Eric
- 4 Hamborg and told him, we've actually set a message in
- 5 our system so that when the prescription comes up for
- 6 K-Dur, the pharmacists are instructed to dispense two
- 7 Klor Con 10 products.
- Q. So, if the prescription was written for K-Dur
- 9 20 in the summer of 2001 in that particular chain
- 10 account, what would happen when that prescription would
- 11 be presented?
- 12 A. The pharmacist would dispense two Klor Con 10
- tablets or two Klor Con 10 for the 20.
- Q. Would the pharmacist do that by calling the
- 15 doctor?
- 16 A. In this case, Walgreens simply mandated that
- they substitute the product, because they didn't have
- any of the 20 milliequivalent. I can't say whether or
- 19 not each pharmacist called the doctor. Our
- 20 understanding was the pharmacists were simply
- 21 dispensing two 10s for a 20.
- Q. Did people in your department have an
- 23 understanding from industry sources about why there
- 24 might be a shortage of K-Dur 20 product in the summer
- 25 of 2001?

- 1 A. Well, I -- there's a couple of sources of
- 2 information. Certainly Schering has a web site, and
- 3 we're constantly, you know, looking at our customers to
- 4 see what they're doing. I believe there was
- 5 information relative to that there. I -- I had heard
- 6 about it through the -- someone reading The Pink Sheet.
- 7 Q. This spike in sales of the Klor Con 10 wax
- 8 matrix product, what time period from the beginning to
- 9 the end have you seen this increase in demand for Klor
- 10 Con 10 over what was budgeted at Upsher-Smith?
- 11 A. Well, it began around the July time period, and
- 12 we're still not caught up, but to my knowledge, we
- 13 still have customers who can't get K-Dur. So, you
- 14 know, it's difficult -- they have to use something.
- Now, of course, post-September 1, they can use
- 16 our product, but our production has not caught up with
- 17 the demand which started in the summer.
- Q. And when you're talking about your production
- 19 in your last answer, are you talking about Klor Con 8
- and 10 mEq wax matrix?
- 21 A. I am.
- Q. And I think you testified that the Klor Con M20
- 23 has sold well. Can you give me a feel for the range of
- sales you've had of the product?
- A. Well, yes, for example, we sold almost \$40

- 1 million worth of Klor Con when we launched it in
- 2 September, though we couldn't deliver all of that,
- 3 because we were catching up with our productivity in
- 4 the Klor Con M products as well. I think we sent
- 5 out -- shipped out about \$28 million, and so to date,
- 6 we have over \$60 million in sales in that.
- 7 Q. Did every customer that you approached embrace
- 8 Klor Con M20 and buy the product?
- 9 A. I wish they had, but that is not the case.
- 10 CVS, for example, does not stock the Klor Con M20
- 11 today, they stock Warrick, and they have from the
- 12 beginning. Pacificare, which is a very large PBM, they
- have a mail order, they actually list K-Dur as the
- 14 preferred generic, and they list Klor Con as the brand.
- So, in that case, if you were to get a prescription,
- 16 you'd actually have to pay more for Klor Con.
- 17 Q. In that example, are you referring to the M20
- 18 Klor Con product?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Are you referring to K-Dur 20 as the listed
- 21 generic at that account?
- 22 A. Yes, I am. The other examples would be Medco
- 23 and Long's out in -- Long's is a regional chain out in
- 24 the west.
- 25 Q. These are companies that have not made

- 1 significant purchases of the Klor Con M20 and have
- 2 stuck with Schering-Plough. Is that correct?
- 3 A. And/or Warrick, right.
- Q. Now, today is February 21st, 2002, is it not,
- 5 sir?
- 6 A. Yes, sir, it is.
- 7 Q. And do you have an understanding when your 180
- 8 days will be up?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. And when will that be?
- 11 A. February 28th, 2002.
- 12 Q. That's about a week away?
- 13 A. It is.
- Q. Have you had any indication from your calls on
- 15 customers that another company is imminently working on
- 16 a launch of a K-Dur 20 product?
- 17 A. No. Actually, we've asked, and the response
- we've had is that they have not heard from any other
- 19 companies.
- 20 Q. Would you expect to hear about that from
- 21 customers at this point?
- 22 A. Absolutely. You -- it takes time to launch a
- 23 product, to get it in the system. As I said, it --
- 24 wholesalers like 60 days notice and chains would prefer
- 25 the same thing. So, when you are going to launch a

- 1 product, you need to give them notice, you need to put
- 2 in competitive pricing, they need to be able to come
- 3 back to their current vendors if that's their choice
- 4 and see if there's any type of bargaining that they can
- 5 do.
- 6 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, I'm at a natural break
- 7 point, but I'm happy to continue as well.
- 8 JUDGE CHAPPELL: It's a good time. Why don't
- 9 we take our morning break. We will recess until 11:25.
- 10 (A brief recess was taken.)
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: You may proceed, Mr. Gidley.
- 12 MR. GIDLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. For the
- next part of the examination, Your Honor, I'll be
- referring to the exhibit binders, and my college, Raj
- 15 Malik, if your screen is working, will put the pages of
- 16 those documents on the ELMO.
- 17 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, that's fine, thanks.
- BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 19 Q. Mr. Dritsas, may I direct your attention to tab
- 20 1 of the Dritsas binder, the large binder. I show you
- 21 Exhibit CX 740. Sir, could you identify that?
- 22 A. Yes, this is a document regarding K-Dur.
- 23 Q. And this is from the files of Upsher-Smith
- 24 Laboratories?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And sir, specifically this document covers the

- 2 Schering product K-Dur 20. Is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And do you see the second bullet where it says,
- 5 "Currently a 79 million dollar product"?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Does that give you an ability to place this
- 8 document in time, to date the document, approximately?
- 9 A. Approximately '94.
- 10 Q. All right. And in the next bullet,
- 11 Upsher-Smith wrote, "Targeting both physicians and
- 12 pharmacists."
- Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And what does that mean?
- 16 A. That means the target for Schering, for
- 17 example, is physicians and pharmacists.
- 18 Q. The next bullet says, "Promoting through
- 19 Schering's 1200 plus rep sales force and a fully
- 20 integrated promotional plan."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes, I do.
- 23 Q. And is that with reference to K-Dur 20?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And at this point in time, what was the size of

- 1 your own field sales force?
- 2 A. We didn't have a field sales force.
- 3 Q. Now, the next bullet says, "Competes directly
- 4 against the 8 and 10 mEq strengths."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 O. And what is that a reference to?
- 8 A. Well, this is positioning K-Dur as a product by
- 9 Schering, talking about their market share and so
- 10 forth, and then for our interests, it competes against
- 11 our 8 and 10 wax matrix products.
- 12 Q. That's K-Dur 20?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, the next bullet says, "Positioned as an
- innovator unique, non-substitutable product."
- 16 What, sir, does that mean at this time?
- 17 A. Well, there's two things really. If you look
- 18 at "positioned as an innovator," that would refer to
- 19 our opinion of how they're marketing their product.
- 20 They are trying to position it as a unique -- they're
- 21 the innovator, they're trying to position it as a
- 22 unique product. And the "nonsubstitutable" part of
- 23 this refers to the fact that there are no other A-B
- 24 rated products.
- Q. Now, did that mean that there was no

- 1 competition for K-Dur 20 at this time?
- 2 A. No, it means there's no other A-B rated
- 3 product.
- Q. So, therapeutic interchange could occur at this
- 5 time through pharmacists. Is that correct?
- A. Right, but not an A-B rated substitution.
- 7 Q. And could you also compete by getting the
- 8 physician to change his or her prescribing habits?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. The last bullet says, "Priced competitively."
- 11 What does that refer to?
- 12 A. That refers to the pricing of the K-Dur
- 13 product.
- Q. Specifically, K-Dur 20?
- 15 A. K-Dur 20, yes.
- 16 Q. Let me direct your attention now, sir, to tab
- 17 2. Would you familiarize yourself with USX 1549
- bearing a Bates number USL 13856 through USL 13874 and
- 19 bearing the legend on the cover, "Klor Con Tablets,
- 20 1996 Marketing Plan."
- 21 A. (Document review.) Yes.
- Q. Could you identify USX 1549?
- 23 A. Yes, this is the marketing plan for 1996 for
- the Klor Con tablets. This was prepared by Denise
- 25 Dolan in February of 1996.

- Q. And Ms. Dolan works in your department?
- 2 A. Yes, she does.
- 3 Q. And this was a document generated by your
- 4 department?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And what's the date of the document?
- 7 A. February 1996.
- 8 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, at this point I would
- 9 move the admission of USX 1549.
- 10 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Any objection?
- MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 1549 is admitted.
- 14 (USX Exhibit Number 1549 was admitted into
- 15 evidence.)
- 16 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 17 Q. Mr. Dritsas, directing your attention to the
- page that's been Bates labeled 858, several pages down.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. The 1996 Klor Con tablets marketing plan reads
- in the category Competition, "In the 10/20 mEq market,
- 22 K-Tab, Micro-K 10, Ethex and K-Dur 20 are the major
- 23 competitors to focus on."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And was that your understanding of the
- 2 competitors that Upsher-Smith was focusing on at this
- 3 period of time?
- A. Yes, during that time period, as I said, we
- 5 looked at the entire KCl market, and we were -- in this
- 6 case, what Denise is referring to is this is the major
- 7 competition against which she wants to compete with our
- 8 Klor Con 10 wax matrix, and that would include the
- 9 products that you see listed there, including the K-Dur
- 10 20.
- 11 Q. And those products listed, including K-Dur 20,
- were the major competitors to the Klor Con 10 and 8 mEq
- 13 tablets?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. At the bottom, in yellow highlight, reads the
- 16 following sentence on 858:
- "It consists of initiatives for targeting (DDD
- data), and renewed focus on managed care, ASCP and high
- 19 volume independents."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. DDD data refers to what, sir?
- 23 A. That refers to the data that we would retrieve
- 24 to focus in on the high prescribers of K-Dur.
- 25 Q. And when you say prescribers, those would be?

- 1 A. The physicians who are prescribing K-Dur.
- 2 Q. "Renewed focus on managed care" refers to what
- 3 at this time for Upsher-Smith?
- A. Renewed focus on managed care, again, would be
- 5 going in with a tactic for getting Klor Con 10 as a
- 6 formulary preference over K-Dur 20 or Ethex or any of
- 7 the other products.
- Q. And when you say "Klor Con 10" in the context
- 9 of this document, you mean the wax matrix product?
- 10 A. Yes, I do.
- 11 Q. ASCP, what is that, sir?
- 12 A. American Society of Consulting Pharmacists, so
- what this would indicate is we want also to get a
- presence with long-term care and nursing homes.
- 15 Q. And finally, the phrase "high volume
- independents," what does "high volume" refer to, sir?
- 17 A. Well, those independents that do the highest
- 18 volume of business.
- 19 Q. On the next page appears the following sentence
- in yellow on page 859:
- "While the various release mechanisms are
- 22 considered to be comparable, state and federal laws
- 23 typically prohibit substitution between dosage forms at
- 24 the pharmacy level. However, therapeutic
- 25 interchange -- requiring input from the physician -- is

1 more common in the managed care sector, when a managed

- 2 care plan standardizes on a specific product for all
- 3 their potassium prescriptions."
- 4 Do you see that quote, sir?
- 5 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Turning your attention to the first sentence,
- 7 the phrase, "the various release mechanisms are
- 8 considered to be comparable," what is that referring
- 9 to?
- 10 A. Well, again, it refers to all forms of
- 11 potassium are considered to be therapeutically
- 12 equivalent. They all deliver potassium. And so in
- here, she's just pointing out that various -- the
- mechanism doesn't really matter in this case. They're
- all considered to be comparable. So, there's no
- 16 perceived clinical advantage of one or the other.
- 17 Q. The rest of the sentence there says, "state and
- 18 federal laws typically prohibit substitution between
- dosage forms at the pharmacy level."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. What's your understanding of how you dealt with
- 23 that phenomenon at Upsher-Smith at this time for the
- 24 Klor Con line?
- 25 A. Well, when they say that it typically prohibits

- 1 substitution between dosage forms, again, relating back
- 2 to the A-B rated substitution. Therefore, the
- 3 pharmacist needs to make a therapeutic choice, and in
- 4 some states, they are allowed to do that without
- 5 calling the physician, and if they're not, then they
- 6 need to make a call to do that.
- 7 When it says requiring a more common -- it's
- 8 more common in the managed care sector, what that's
- 9 referring to is that the managed care organization can
- 10 limit the use of any product by not having it on
- 11 formulary, and they can standardize on their potassium
- 12 needs.
- Q. But even in those instances where substitution
- were prohibited, could that be overcome by a phone call
- from the pharmacist to the doctor?
- 16 A. In all cases.
- 17 Q. Now may I direct your attention, sir, to page
- 18 861, several pages down.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And again, we're just going to stay with the
- 21 yellow highlighting. It says:
- "Competition: The 10/20 mEq Tablet Market,"
- picking up with, "The 10/20 mEq market continues to be
- increasingly competitive."
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Was that your own perception of the marketplace
- 3 at this time?
- 4 A. Yes. Again, I would -- you know, this is a
- 5 segment of the overall potassium market, so within this
- 6 segment, it was becoming increasingly competitive.
- 7 Q. And who were the key competitors in that
- 8 segment of the potassium market at this time?
- 9 A. They are identified here as K-Tab, Klotrix,
- 10 K-Dur 20 and K-Dur 10.
- 11 Q. And was at this time Upsher-Smith competing
- within this segment, the 10/20 segment?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. So, was Klor Con 10 competing with K-Dur 10 and
- 15 K-Dur 20 at this time?
- 16 A. Yes, and all of the products listed there.
- 17 Q. Down below there's a product profile for
- Schering which is highlighted, and the second bullet
- says on page 861, "Offer competitive pricing."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. What is that a reference to?
- 23 A. It references to their pricing strategy.
- Q. Was that your belief at Upsher-Smith at this
- 25 time?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And was that true of the K-Dur 20 product?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Directing your attention to the next page, sir.
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. What competitors are listed on page 862?
- 7 A. The Micro-K by A. H. Robbins and then the Ethex
- 8 product.
- 9 Q. And that's E T H E X, correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And what was the strategy of Ethex as
- 12 understood -- and that is E T E X (sic) -- as
- understood by Upsher-Smith at this time?
- 14 A. Yes, ETHEX.
- 15 Q. Thank you.
- 16 A. The strategy position is a quality low cost
- 17 substitute. So, in other words, she's saying they have
- a similar positioning as Upsher-Smith, but they're very
- 19 aggressive in their pricing.
- 20 Q. The phrase "in similar strategy to Klor Con,"
- is that a reference to the 8 and 10 mEq Klor Con wax
- 22 matrix tablet?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. And at this time were you emphasizing both
- 25 quality and low cost?

- 1 A. We were.
- 2 Q. The next bullet says, "Aggressive pricing
- 3 strategy."
- 4 Do you see that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that your best recollection of what that
- 7 company was doing in the marketplace for potassium at
- 8 this time?
- 9 A. Absolutely.
- 10 Q. Directing your attention, if I may, sir, to
- 11 page 64.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. "Competition Summary: In the 10/20 mEg tablet
- market, K-Tab, Klotrix, K-Dur 10 and K-Dur 20 are the
- major competitors on which we intend to focus."
- Do you see that quote, sir?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And the reference here to "we" is Upsher-Smith,
- 19 is it not?
- 20 A. Yes, Upsher-Smith, and primarily with our wax
- 21 matrix products.
- 22 Q. And that would be the -- be what?
- 23 A. The Klor Con 8 and 10.
- Q. And the Klor Con 8 and 10 would be competing
- 25 with what players at this time?

1 A. The K-Tab, Klotrix, K-Dur 10 and then the K-Dur

- 2 20.
- 3 Q. And would those be all of the competitors?
- A. No, there are many more competitors. What the
- 5 product manager is doing in this case is taking that
- 6 segment of the market where the -- those prescriptions
- 7 are written and saying we are going to go after the
- 8 prescriptions for K-Tab, Klotrix, K-Dur and K-Dur 20.
- 9 Q. And do you agree with this competition summary
- 10 on this page?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Turning your attention now to the next page,
- page 65, bullet two under Assumptions says, "The major
- driving forces for our growth and profitability are:
- 15 Managed care through drug interchange; wholesalers,"
- and I'm abbreviating, chains and mail order.
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And the first bullet, "Managed care through
- 20 drug interchange," is that what you were referring to
- 21 earlier?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And how would that work for the Klor Con 8 and
- 24 10 products at this time?
- 25 A. We would go into the managed care and ask that

- 1 they list our product as a preferred product or ask
- 2 that they give consideration to not listing K-Dur.
- 3 Q. Directing your attention to the sentence that
- 4 begins under the third bullet, "We will grow share in
- 5 the managed care arena at the expense of all the
- 6 potassium products due to therapeutic interchange
- 7 (formulary exclusion or restriction), " do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. The reference to "all potassium" would that
- have included Schering's products, the K-Dur 10 and 20?
- 11 A. Yes, it does. If you look earlier, we -- in
- 12 the first assumption, we talk about the KCl market as
- 13 \$218 million. So, the KCl market includes the K-Dur
- 14 10, the K-Dur 20 and all of the potassium products.
- Now, further, she's segmenting it into the top
- 16 competitors that she really wants to focus in on, and
- 17 she's listing there in that third point, this is how
- we're going to get in there, and managed care would be
- one way we're going to do that.
- 20 Q. And formulary exclusion, what does that refer
- 21 to?
- 22 A. That refers to the tactic where you would -- if
- 23 I'm on the formulary with Klor Con and you're not, then
- you're excluded from that formulary.
- 25 Q. Was this something that you were doing versus

- 1 K-Dur 10 and 20 at this time period?
- 2 A. Yeah, most specifically to K-Dur 10 and 20.
- 3 Q. Directing your attention to page 868, "Issue:
- 4 In order to grow Klor Con sales it is essential to take
- 5 share from the competition."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Was that true of Klor Con 8 and 10 wax matrix
- 9 tablets at this time?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what did the competition include at this
- 12 time?
- 13 A. Let me just take a look at this for a minute.
- 14 Oh, it is all Klor Con tablets. I thought she might be
- just talking about the 8 mEq. The -- the competition
- would be K-Dur 10, K-Dur 20, the Ethex product, the
- 17 Micro-K 8 and 10, probably Klotrix, K-Tab.
- Q. Underneath Issues, there are a number of
- objectives, and I direct your attention to the next
- 20 page, page 869.
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. It says, "To defend and grow the Klor Con
- 23 market share where we are on managed care formularies."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And there are a number of strategies listed.

- 2 A. Right.
- 3 Q. The first says, "Offer rebates linked to market
- 4 share growth."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Is that something you were doing at this time?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. And a rebate would be what?
- 10 A. A rebate would be something that we would work
- out on a quarterly basis so that, for example, if the
- 12 managed care program were to list us as a preferred
- product and offer some type of, for example, a lower
- 14 co-pay on the Klor Con 10, and within their potassium
- market, which would include a number of competitors,
- 16 the 20, the 10, the microencapsulated, if we got a
- 17 preferred status, we would look at that and we would
- say as your market share grows with Klor Con within
- 19 your managed care segment, then we will give you some
- 20 type of rebate each quarter against mutually agreed
- 21 upon objectives that we would set together.
- Q. And the rebate would involve a cash payment?
- 23 A. It could. It could -- it really would depend
- 24 on the plan. It could be a cash payment. It could be
- 25 a credit of some sort. It could be a promotional

- 1 support.
- Q. But it was a financial incentive?
- 3 A. But it was a financial incentive, yes.
- Q. The next bullet -- the fourth bullet says,
- 5 "Offer bulk product at special pricing to targeted
- 6 accounts."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. What is that a reference to?
- 10 A. That's yet another way to compete in the
- 11 market. When you offer bulk, from our standpoint, you
- 12 get economies of scale because you're not bottling it
- off in smaller units, and so you can also offer more
- competitive price on it because of those economies of
- 15 scale, and then there's certain mail order
- organizations, for example, that have repackaging. So,
- 17 we could sell it to them. They could buy our bulk
- presentation of 5000s or 10,000, which we would not
- 19 sell to a retail pharmacy. They could then repackage
- 20 it, and it would be a profitable situation for both of
- 21 us.
- 22 Q. So, just showing you what we've had in this
- courtroom, the 500-tablet bottle, the bulk product
- 24 would have how many tablets typically?
- 25 A. Well, typically the bulk product -- a bulk

- 1 presentation has at least a thousand. In our case with
- 2 Klor Con 8 and 10, we have it in 5000s as well as
- 3 10,000.
- Q. What are some customers that have opted for
- 5 bulk product of the Klor Con product line?
- A. WalMart, for example, has a repackager, and
- 7 they repackage our products.
- Q. The next objective says, "To grow Klor Con
- 9 market share by gaining formulary status as the
- 10 exclusive or preferred potassium."
- 11 Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Now, the reference to gaining formulary status,
- is that talking about getting into new managed care or
- 15 PBM formularies?
- 16 A. Right.
- 17 Q. And that might mean excluding another
- 18 competitor. Is that correct?
- 19 A. Well, it does mean excluding another
- 20 competitor. It means -- whenever you have as an
- 21 objective to gain formulary status as exclusive, that
- means we want them to not use K-Dur 20, K-Dur 10,
- 23 microencapsulate -- might be Micro 8, Micro 10, any
- other product lines. We want them to just use our
- 25 product.

- If we can't get that, you see it says on there,
- 2 "or preferred." So, that means, okay, maybe we're both
- 3 on the formulary, but you're going to pay this much for
- 4 K-Dur and you're going to pay this much in a co-pay for
- 5 Klor Con. That's how --
- Q. You're using your hands. Let me just put that
- 7 on the record.
- 8 A. I'm sorry.
- 9 Q. If there is a preferred formulary status to
- 10 Klor Con versus K-Dur, how would that work? Just use a
- 11 numeric example, if you would.
- 12 A. What I would -- how that would work, then, is
- when you went to get your prescription filled, the
- 14 pharmacist might say, K-Dur will cost you -- using an
- arbitrary number -- \$25. Klor Con will cost you \$5.
- 16 That would be preferred.
- 17 In the exclusive status, it would simply say we
- don't -- we don't cover K-Dur. If you want to pay \$70
- out of your own pocket, you can do that, but your plan
- does not cover K-Dur.
- Q. And the two dollar figures you're talking about
- 22 would be the co-pay the customer would pay?
- 23 A. Exactly.
- Q. So, that would be -- that would give -- in the
- instance of a preferred formulary, that might give the

1 customer an incentive to buy your product versus

- 2 another?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Including K-Dur?
- 5 A. Including K-Dur.
- Q. Going to the next page -- actually, let's move
- 7 along to the back of this document. There's a page
- 8 872, Mr. Dritsas, entitled Tactical Plan.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And underneath Overview, the next page, which
- is 873, "Klor Con Tablets sales and profitability are
- 12 critical to the success of Upsher-Smith. The tablet
- line (brand and private label) provide 64% of the
- 14 company's sales but also in the range of 80% of its
- 15 profits."
- 16 Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. In 1996, was the Klor Con product line
- important to the success of Upsher-Smith?
- 20 A. Absolutely, over 80 percent of our profits came
- 21 from Klor Con.
- Q. Was it critical to the success of Upsher-Smith
- 23 in 1997?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. How about 1998?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. 1999?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. 2000?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And 2001?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's because it provides both sales
- 9 dollars and profit dollars to Upsher-Smith?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. In fact, either a majority or a very strong
- 12 plurality of the dollars involved?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. Let me direct your attention, if I may, sir,
- now to tab 3 of the Dritsas exhibit binder.
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And I show you what's been marked for the
- 18 record USX 619.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. What's this logo on page 1, IMS America?
- 21 What's that?
- 22 A. That's a resource. IMS is the resource for
- 23 audits that we get. They provide you with data.
- Q. And do they do this for free?
- 25 A. Oh, no, it costs a lot of money to get IMS

- 1 data.
- 2 Q. Is IMS used by others in the industry?
- 3 A. IMS is really to my knowledge the standard in
- 4 the industry that most pharmaceutical companies would
- 5 use, and they have a number of different tools
- 6 available for companies. You can get information in
- 7 realtime. You can get information monthly.
- At this time, we were not able to afford that
- 9 kind of update, and so generally we would get data --
- information that was dated or what they call aged,
- 11 because you get a significant discount if you get aged
- 12 data, and they charge the most, in other words, for the
- 13 freshest and newest information.
- Q. So, in 1996, were you buying all of the data
- that IMS made available?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. How about 1997?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. How about 1998?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. How about 1999?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. How about the years 2000 and 2001?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. And that's due to cost?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Let me direct your attention to the next page.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 O. And the condition of this document is such that
- 5 the print is a bit fine. Starting on this page, and
- 6 without trying to exhaust you or your eyes, could you
- 7 read the first phrase, "Selected Market," and then
- 8 below that, do you see where it's yellow highlighted?
- 9 A. Yes. Below that is an identifier number that
- 10 IMS uses for potassium chloride.
- 11 Q. And it begins with a 6?
- 12 A. Yes, 60110.
- Q. All right. And listed below, we've highlighted
- some of them or some of the competitors. Before we get
- to the first one that's yellow highlighted, we see the
- 16 reference here to K-Dur. Do you see that in the fifth
- 17 line?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And that would be the Schering product?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- Q. And it looks like the 20 mEq there is listed.
- 22 Is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And below that is Abbott? Do you see that?
- 25 A. Abbott KLor.

- 1 Q. Right. And what was KLor?
- 2 A. A 20 mEq product.
- 3 Q. What's the next company listed?
- 4 A. Upsher-Smith Klor Con.
- 5 Q. All right. And the next company, sir?
- 6 A. Wyeth Ayerst.
- 7 Q. The next company?
- 8 A. Rugby.
- 9 Q. Did they have a potassium chloride product?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what was its strength?
- 12 A. 20 mEq.
- Q. What's the next company, sir?
- 14 A. Bajmar.
- Q. Could you spell that for the record?
- 16 A. BAJMAR.
- 17 Q. And the next one, sir?
- 18 A. Schein.
- 19 Q. And what sort of product did Schein have in
- this report?
- 21 A. 20 mEq.
- Q. And the next one, can you read the next one?
- A. Geneva -- oh, I'm sorry, the one above Geneva?
- I can't read the one above Geneva.
- Q. Okay, let's skip to Geneva. Did they have a

- potassium chloride product?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And can you read the last two on this page?
- A. The next one says, "manufacturer not stated,"
- 5 the next one says, "Qualitest Products."
- Q. All right. And we've been reading from USL
- 7 14884.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And directing your attention very briefly to
- 10 the next page, 85, what are some of the competitors in
- 11 potassium on that page?
- 12 A. Alra Labs, Roxane, Copley, Major. I can't
- 13 quite read the next two of them.
- Q. Do you see about six or seven items down
- there's an entry that looks like 10 mEq?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And below that is what company?
- 18 A. Key Pharmaceuticals -- well, there's
- 19 Upsher-Smith first.
- 20 O. And then?
- 21 A. Key Pharmaceuticals with K-Dur.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- A. And then Abbott.
- Q. And below Abbott?
- A. Rugby.

1 Q. Turning the page, on the next page, page 886.

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. The first yellow highlighted company there?
- 4 A. Is Qualitest.
- 5 Q. All right. And what are some of the other
- 6 companies that were selling potassium chloride at this
- 7 strength?
- 8 A. Warner Chilcott, Gold Line, Alra Labs, Major,
- 9 Apothecon. I can't make out the others.
- 10 Q. And just flipping through the rest of this
- document, are there a number of potassium chloride
- 12 products at the time of this report being marketed in
- 13 the U.S.?
- 14 A. Oh, yes. These are all potassium products.
- Q. Sir, what's -- what would be your estimate of
- 16 the number of companies that were selling potassium
- 17 products in 1996?
- 18 A. Fifty.
- 19 Q. Certainly more than 10 or 20?
- 20 A. Certainly more than 10 or 20.
- 21 Q. All right. May I direct your attention, sir,
- 22 to tab 4.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. USX 626. Why don't you take a minute and
- 25 familiarize yourself with that exhibit.

- 1 A. Okay. (Document review.)
- Q. And for the record, USX 626 begins with USL
- 3 15224 and concludes with USL 15344.
- A. Where did -- I'm sorry, would you tell me again
- 5 where it concludes?
- 6 Q. It should conclude right before tab 5. The
- 7 first page in my binder is 15224, and the last page --
- 8 whoops -- is 15245.
- 9 A. 245, okay.
- 10 Q. I read ahead. Thank you for the correction.
- 11 USX 626 is 15224 to 245.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. You have had a chance to familiarize yourself
- 14 with this exhibit?
- 15 A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And what is this exhibit?
- 17 A. This is the Klor Con tablet 1997 marketing plan
- that was submitted by Denise Dolan in December of 1996.
- 19 Q. And what -- who -- which company had this plan?
- 20 A. This is Upsher-Smith Laboratories.
- 21 Q. And did Ms. Dolan work for you in December of
- 22 1996?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And was this, in fact, the marketing plan for
- 25 the company --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- for the year 1997?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And she would have finished her preparation
- 5 right around the end of 1996?
- A. Yes.
- 7 MR. GIDLEY: I would move the admission, Your
- 8 Honor, of USX 626.
- 9 MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- 10 MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- 11 JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 626 is admitted.
- 12 (USX Exhibit Number 626 was admitted into
- 13 evidence.)
- 14 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Sir, may I direct your attention to page 227,
- 16 the introduction?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. The introduction states, "Promotion for 1997
- 19 will have a consistent message focusing on the benefits
- of the Klor Con line as well as our competitive
- 21 pricing."
- Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Was that the way that you positioned, in fact,
- 25 the Klor Con line in the year 1997?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And part of your focus was on pricing?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. The next paragraph begins, "Price has become
- 5 the major factor in the potassium chloride market."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And the next sentence reads, "Brands as well as
- 9 generics are using price to increase share in this
- 10 established market."
- 11 Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. What do those words mean? What was going on in
- 14 the potassium chloride market at this time?
- 15 A. Well, it was becoming increasingly competitive
- 16 within this time period, and I think there were a
- 17 number of new competitors in the market, and each year
- we seemed to get one or two more, and so even the brand
- 19 companies were using price to compete for share.
- 20 And so what we were saying is that we will be
- 21 consistent in our message to say we've always been
- 22 economically priced, we've always offered your patients
- 23 a lower cost alternative.
- Q. And how does -- how did firms in 1996 and 1997
- use price to gain market share?

- 1 A. Well, they might use it through rebate
- 2 programs, through market share programs. They might
- 3 try just lowballing a price in a wholesaler or in a
- 4 chain.
- 5 Q. This reference to "brands as well as generics,"
- 6 what are some of the firms being referred to there?
- 7 A. Well, it would be all of the ones that we saw
- 8 with whom we competed, like the K-Dur product, for
- 9 example, K-Tab, Slow K, Micro-K.
- 10 Q. And sir, directing your attention to the next
- 11 sentence, "Upsher-Smith will closely monitor the market
- 12 and continue to strengthen our position with key
- accounts through competitive pricing strategies," do
- 14 you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. What does "competitive pricing" mean here?
- 17 A. It means that within those key accounts that we
- identified, which would be wholesalers, chains, managed
- 19 care headquarters, for example, that we are going to
- 20 monitor that and then administer, if you will,
- 21 competitive pricing strategies to either gain or
- 22 maintain business that we have.
- Q. Did that mean lowering price in some instances
- 24 at this time?
- 25 A. It would.

- 1 Q. Let me direct your attention to the next page,
- 2 the Executive Summary. The report reads, "In the 10/20
- 3 mEq market, the focus has been on price with continued
- 4 growth from generics such as Ethex," E T H E X, "and
- 5 new entries from Apothecon, ESI Lederle, Medeva, " M E D
- 6 E V A, "and Biocraft in 1996."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes, I do.
- 9 Q. And sir, had entry occurred within the
- 10 potassium chloride market in 1996?
- 11 A. Yes. These were several of the companies who
- 12 now were offering potassium.
- 13 Q. And indeed, within the overall potassium
- market, specifically within the 10/20 market segment,
- what firms had entered in 1996 and begun selling
- 16 potassium chloride?
- 17 A. The new entries were Apothecon, ESI Lederle,
- 18 Medeva and Biocraft.
- 19 Q. What was Apothecon's reputation as a
- 20 competitor?
- 21 A. Very low-priced competitor.
- Q. And we're talking about potassium here?
- 23 A. In this case we are. Apothecon has a large
- 24 breadth of generic products.
- Q. And specifically in the 10/20 mEq segment. Is

- 1 that correct?
- 2 A. That's right.
- 3 Q. All right. And ESI Lederle, Medeva and
- 4 Biocraft, they had also entered this segment in 1996?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. The next sentence says, "The major brands have
- 7 started to trade price for volume to compete with
- 8 strong generic competition."
- 9 Does that sentence refer to the 10/20 mEq
- 10 market segment?
- 11 A. It does.
- 12 Q. And what would have been the major brands in
- that market segment at this time period?
- 14 A. K-Dur 10, K-Dur 20, Micro-K 8, Micro-K 10, Slow
- 15 K, K-Tab, Klotrix were some of them. I'm probably not
- 16 naming them all.
- 17 Q. Let me direct your attention now to page 234.
- 18 The page is entitled Competition.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. The yellow highlighted sentence reads, "The 10
- 21 mEq tablet segment has become increasingly competitive
- 22 with pricing competition from the branded products as
- 23 well as new entries such as Apothecon."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Is that your understanding of what was going on

- 2 in that market segment?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says, "We plan to continue to pursue
- 5 competitors such as Ethex and ESI Lederle as
- 6 opportunities by focusing on therapeutic substitution
- 7 through managed care formularies and pharmacists."
- 8 Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And what does "therapeutic substitution" refer
- 11 to?
- 12 A. Again, this would refer to the products that
- 13 Ethex and ESI Lederle have would not be A-B rated to
- our Klor Con 10, so we would be going to get a
- therapeutic substitution and through the strategies
- 16 that we do with managed care and with pharmacists.
- 17 Q. Directing your attention to the top of page
- 18 235, also contained within USX 626, the 1997 Klor Con
- 19 tablets market plan, the first sentence reads at the
- 20 top of the page, "The 10/20 mEq Market -- The trend in
- 21 the KCl market is toward 10 and 20 mEq slow-release
- 22 tablet with emphasis on price and dosing flexibility.
- 23 This market continues to be increasingly competitive."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Is that your understanding of what was going on

- 2 in that market segment at this period of time?
- 3 A. Yes, it is. If you looked at the market as a
- 4 whole, the K-Dur 20, for example, was gaining at the
- 5 expense of the 8 and 10 and other forms of potassium.
- 6 So, in this case, she's pointing out the trend in the
- 7 whole market is towards the 10 mEq and 20, so you'd see
- 8 diminished market share, for example, in the 8 mEq
- 9 prescriptions, emphasizing the price and dosing
- 10 flexibility.
- 11 Q. Now, when there's a trend towards 20 mEg at
- 12 this period of time, what's that a trend towards?
- 13 A. The market -- the prescriptions are being
- 14 written for K-Dur. There's a trend of dispensing them
- in K-Dur at the expense of the other products.
- 16 Q. And when you say there's a trend, where's the
- 17 trend coming from? What's it taking share from?
- 18 A. It's taking share from the other potassium
- 19 products. So, for example, in this case, Denise would
- 20 be worried about the share it's taking from her 8 and
- 21 10 wax matrix.
- Q. The Klor Con Upsher product?
- 23 A. The Klor Con wax matrix.
- Q. Now, who were the participants in the 10/20 mEq
- 25 market segment at this time?

- 1 A. Well, she has a number of them. K-Dur 10 and
- 2 20 are the first that she identifies, and then Micro-K
- 3 10, the Ethex 10, and then there are a number of
- 4 others.
- 5 Q. Now, at this period in time, what did you think
- 6 Key might do to counter generic competition, and
- 7 directing your attention to the third bullet on this
- 8 page underneath K-Dur 10 and 20.
- 9 A. The thought was that Key might take defensive
- 10 action to counter that. In other words, we were trying
- 11 to anticipate what type of defensive moves they would
- 12 make from their sales and marketing group. Certainly
- they had the resources to do market share programs, to
- step up promotional efforts. They have a very large
- product line that would potentially disadvantage us if
- 16 we were to go head to head. And so in here she's
- 17 talking about we have plans in place to respond to
- 18 that.
- 19 Q. And I'm sorry, USL refers to what there?
- 20 A. USL refers to Upsher-Smith Laboratories.
- 21 That's our internal acronym that we use.
- 22 Q. And you're responding to which firm?
- A. We're responding to Key/Schering with any type
- of offensive or defensive moves. They might choose to
- 25 continue to grow their share at the expense of our 8

- 1 and 10 or defend their share.
- 2 Q. And what products would you be responding to
- 3 from Schering?
- 4 A. The K-Dur 10 and 20 in this case.
- 5 Q. Now, I notice -- I don't mean to embarrass you,
- 6 but it says, "USL will has plans." Have you got typos
- 7 in this document? Does that happen at your company?
- 8 A. Yes, it does.
- 9 Q. Let me direct your attention to the Ethex
- 10 portion of this document. It says, "Ethex 10 mEq
- 11 capsule. Strategy -- Positioned as a quality, low-cost
- 12 substitute (similar strategy to Klor Con); Pursuing and
- gaining market share from capsules as well as tablets."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Is that your understanding of the market at
- 17 that time in terms of the impact of the Ethex firm?
- 18 A. Yes, so what they are saying is they want to do
- 19 a similar strategy that we do. The Ethex -- or Ethex
- 20 as I call it -- product, it's really only A-B rated to
- 21 Micro-K, and what they were doing is trying to get
- 22 share from other products, like Klor Con 10, you know,
- for which they were not A-B rated. So, they are doing
- 24 a similar strategy.
- 25 Q. And directing your attention to the headline

- there, it's "Ethex 10 mEq capsule."
- 2 Is that right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. So, you have got capsules and tablets mixed in
- 5 this market segment?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Are they all competing?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. It also says, "Aggressive pricing strategy."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you agree with that characterization of what
- 13 this firm was doing at that time?
- 14 A. Absolutely.
- Q. Now, directing your attention to the next page
- of the 1997 Klor Con tablet Upsher-Smith marketing
- 17 plan, do you see the language "Challenges" and
- 18 "Opportunities"?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. The first one reads, "To grow Klor Con Tablet
- 21 market share and increase Upsher-Smith's overall share
- in the potassium market."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Was that your strategy, to take share from

1 anyone who was selling potassium products at this time?

- 2 A. Absolutely. We looked at the entire market,
- 3 and we were looking to see how we could gain share in
- 4 all segments of the market.
- 5 Q. It says in the first sentence, "Klor Con has
- 6 shown consistent growth in a relatively flat market."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Is that the reason for the reference to "market
- share" and "gaining market share" from others?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. It says, "Upsher-Smith is counting on this
- 13 growth to continue to drive company sales."
- At this point in time, was it the avowed plan
- of Upsher-Smith to grow its share of the potassium
- 16 market?
- 17 A. Yes, it was, and it remains today.
- 18 Q. Now, this is under Challenges, the sentence or
- 19 the bullet concludes with, "We are challenged both
- internally and externally, "skipping over a few words,
- 21 "by increased competition in the market."
- Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And was that Ms. Dolan's view of the market?
- 25 A. Yes, we had -- I think she had stated, we had

- 1 the increased trend towards the 10 and 20 mEg at the
- 2 expense of the 8 and 10 wax matrix. We had a number of
- 3 new competitors who were now suddenly on the market.
- 4 So, there was an increasingly competitive environment,
- 5 and this was our biggest product and one that we
- 6 depended on in order to sustain profits and to grow the
- 7 future of the company.
- Q. And was that your view of the potassium market
- 9 in 1997?
- 10 A. Absolute -- yes, it was.
- 11 Q. The next bullet reads, "Increased competition
- in the potassium market place.
- "Upsher-Smith is faced with increased
- 14 competition in this market through price as well as new
- 15 entries in the market. Competitors such as Ethex and
- 16 ESI Lederle are aggressively going after share in the
- 17 KCl market."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. Ethex and ESI Lederle were new entrants. Is
- 21 that correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Was it relatively easy in your view for them to
- 24 enter this market?
- 25 A. It's relatively easy to enter the potassium

- 1 market. We -- you know, when we added our Klor Con
- 2 effervescent, for example, we simply contacted someone
- 3 to make it for us, and we were on the market.
- 4 Q. Was it -- I'm sorry.
- 5 A. So, these people could enter the market -- to
- 6 my knowledge, Ethex didn't have a field force, for
- 7 example, and they had -- they really didn't have a
- 8 sales and marketing effort.
- 9 Q. And did you view the potassium marketplace as
- 10 having ease of entry in 1997?
- 11 A. It did have ease of entry in 1997, yes.
- 12 Q. That was your view?
- 13 A. That's my view.
- Q. Directing your attention to the phrase
- "Opportunities," the second half of this page, "1.
- 16 Upsher-Smith commitment to potassium," it says, "Klor
- 17 Con is a major product for Upsher-Smith and we will to
- 18 continue support of product with investments in plant,
- 19 sales efforts and promotion."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And was the company, in fact, doing that and
- putting resources behind potassium in 1997?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. The second sentence reads, "We plan to

- 1 capitalize on this opportunity by employing internal
- 2 and external resources to develop innovative selling
- 3 programs and identifying potential markets to target
- 4 for current as well as future products."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what were some of the selling programs you
- 8 were using at this point in time?
- 9 A. Ah, the selling programs would have included
- internally, we do -- were doing free good promotional
- 11 programs, for example, that we would do during our
- 12 calls to independent pharmacists, where we offered the
- product on deal, but if they purchased a certain
- quantity and with a certain frequency, we might offer
- 15 free goods that we would send out to them.
- In the managed care programs, we might offer
- 17 market share programs. Within chains, we were offering
- 18 rebates in order to fend off competitive offers, for
- 19 example.
- 20 Q. I direct your attention to the next bullet. It
- 21 says, "2. The addition of bulk presentations to the
- 22 Upsher-Smith potassium tablet line.
- 23 "The addition of bulk for Klor Con Tablets and
- 24 private label potassium will allow Upsher-Smith to gain
- 25 new business and maintain existing accounts in an

- increasingly competitive environment."
- 2 Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Was that a discussion of the potassium tablet
- 5 market segment?
- 6 A. Yes, the potassium -- actually, the addition of
- 7 the bulk tablets and private label potassium really
- 8 would compete within the potassium market.
- 9 Q. And was this a new product at this point in
- time that you were introducing?
- 11 A. The bulk presentation was new.
- 12 Q. Was it very costly to offer a bulk product in
- addition to what you had already been selling?
- 14 A. Not from my perspective.
- Q. Do you think it was for Upsher-Smith at this
- 16 time?
- 17 A. No.
- Q. Let me direct your attention to page 238, which
- 19 is in the portion of the marketing plan for Klor Con --
- 20 A. May I -- may I ask a question?
- 21 Q. Sure.
- 22 A. Or can I clarify a statement?
- 23 Q. Yes.
- A. Because it's bothered me ever since I answered
- 25 it.

- 1 Q. Please.
- 2 A. And that is under the first point where it's --
- 3 for Opportunities, where it says, "Upsher-Smith has a
- 4 major product -- Klor Con is a major product for
- 5 Upsher-Smith. We will continue to support of product
- 6 with investments in plant, sales efforts and
- 7 promotion."
- 8 Q. Right.
- 9 A. I don't want to misspeak here in answering that
- 10 question to say that we were committed to investments
- 11 at that point in time in the plant and other things.
- 12 The point that this manager -- that this product
- manager is making is that in order to support Klor Con,
- we need to continue to invest in these things, and I
- just didn't want to answer incorrectly to say that we
- 16 were actually making the investments at this time and
- doing that, because we weren't.
- 18 Q. Is it your interpretation or your view that
- 19 this language is talking about investments in plant,
- 20 sales efforts and promotion over time?
- 21 A. Exactly, and I just wanted to make sure I was
- 22 clear on that.
- Q. I appreciate that.
- 24 If I may direct your attention now to page 238,
- 25 Strategies.

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Again, in the Klor Con marketing plan for 1997.
- 3 "The primary focus for Klor Con promotion will
- 4 continue to be on the pharmacist with specific
- 5 targeting of managed care, high volume independents and
- 6 select chain pharmacists."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Why were you focusing on pharmacists at this
- 10 period of time?
- 11 A. The pharmacists would be able to make the
- 12 therapeutic substitutions. We were capitalizing on the
- 13 customer base that we were building with the
- independents, and as you can see, it's not just
- pharmacists, because there's managed care in there as
- 16 well.
- 17 Q. And directing your attention to I believe it's
- 18 the next paragraph, and I'm going to just abbreviate
- 19 this, Klor Con will be promoted specifically to
- 20 independents through deals and telesales campaigns
- 21 three times during the year.
- Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And the independents there refers to
- 25 independent pharmacists?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And the final sentence of that paragraph says,
- 3 "The deals focus on retail pharmacists, offering
- 4 discounts directly to stores to increase stock,
- 5 substitution and dispensing."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And what is that a reference to, the phrase
- 9 "offering discounts directly to stores to increase
- 10 stock, substitution and dispensing"? What's going on
- 11 there?
- 12 A. The free goods that I talked about earlier,
- that would be referencing that. So, in other words,
- we're not offering them something through their
- 15 wholesaler to discount it. They would purchase from us
- on deal, but then if they had a certain volume or a
- 17 certain frequency, we would send out to them free goods
- 18 directly to them.
- 19 Q. So, in other words, they got a discount or a
- 20 financial incentive if they increased stock,
- 21 substitution or dispensing of your Klor Con product
- 22 line?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. The next paragraph refers to the national
- 25 account group and chains. Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And chains there is -- are those chain
- 3 pharmacies? What's that a reference to?
- 4 A. The chains would be the drug chains like
- 5 Walgreens, CVS and so forth.
- Q. The next paragraph, "Klor Con supports the
- 7 managed care goal of improved patient outcomes while
- 8 providing a quality product at a competitive price.
- 9 Since therapeutic interchange is common in this segment
- 10 the promotion will emphasize:
- "The potassium line that can offer managed care
- 12 plans substantial savings, high quality and patient
- 13 support plans to maintain compliance."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Was part of your marketing message in 1997 that
- 17 you would be able to achieve and maintain compliance
- with hypokalemic patients through the use of Klor Con?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. The next sentence describes another strategy.
- "Once we have obtained preferred formulary status, we
- 22 plan physician promotion to drive prescriptions and
- increase patient education programs."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And what is that referring to?
- 2 A. Well, that would be something we would do in
- 3 conjunction with the plan, if -- once we achieved that
- 4 formulary status, then we would work with the
- 5 physicians and the patients and the plan to provide to
- 6 the -- to them any educational support, samples, for
- 7 example, or other things that they would need in order
- 8 to successfully give their patients the Klor Con and
- 9 switch them over.
- 10 Q. Now let me direct your attention to the next
- 11 page, Tactics.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And in highlight is, "Telephone Sales/Deal
- 14 Promotion." There is reference made here to the Klor
- 15 Con deal that's been restructured with several
- 16 objectives. The first says, "Increase the number of
- stores buying the deal from 7,000 to 12,000."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. What do those 7000 and 12,000 refer to?
- 21 A. That refers to the number of independent
- 22 pharmacies during a four-week period of time for whom
- 23 we would actually take the order and place it with the
- 24 wholesaler.
- Q. And the next phrase, "Increase the amount

1 purchased by each store by four or five times."

- 2 Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that referring to four or five fold or
- 5 something else?
- 6 A. Four or five fold.
- 7 Q. Okay. And then finally, the reference to the
- 8 method is, "The strategy is to offer buying pharmacists
- 9 a direct cash payment rebate, paid by check, rather
- than offering 16 2/3% off invoice to the wholesaler."
- 11 Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And is that your recollection of a promotion
- 14 that you ran in 1996 or '97?
- 15 A. It was one of the promotions we ran.
- 16 Q. All right, let me direct your attention to the
- 17 next page. I'm going to skip some of the tactics.
- 18 Let's go to the direct mail tactic that's second on
- 19 that page.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. The marketing plan for Klor Con says,
- "Upsher-Smith will target high potassium dispensing
- 23 pharmacies with direct mail programs."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. How did you locate those high potassium

- 2 dispensing pharmacies?
- 3 A. The DDD data, the IMS data.
- 4 Q. Does DDD data come from IMS?
- 5 A. It does.
- Q. And you have to purchase it?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And you purchase it and then use the IMS data
- 9 to direct your marketing campaign. Is that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct. So, what we would do is buy a
- one-time list, and then -- because that's more
- 12 economical, and the list then would indicate to us, you
- know, who are the top dispensing pharmacies in this
- 14 case. I think they use a numeric range of 10 to 0 or
- 15 something like -- well, there is no 0 in potassium, but
- 16 10 to 1. So, we would highlight 7 through 10, and
- 17 those would be the pharmacies that we would focus our
- 18 efforts on, because they dispense the most potassium
- 19 products, K-Dur 20, K-Dur 10, Micro-K, whatever
- 20 competing product they have.
- 21 Q. And finally at the bottom of the page there is
- 22 references made to journal advertising.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And such publications as Drug Topics, Pharmacy
- 25 Times, et cetera. Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And what was the purpose of that campaign in
- 3 potassium at this time for Klor Con?
- 4 A. That was a media campaign to support the
- 5 promotional message to the pharmacists.
- Q. Directing your attention to the next page,
- 7 15241.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And this is of the 1997 marketing plan, this
- 10 page is entitled Budget. Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. And it says, "The promotional budget for 1997
- 13 is \$340,000."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And that was the budget for the Klor Con
- 17 product line?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And at this point in time, was that a major
- 20 commitment for your company?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Was this the largest promotional budget that
- you had for all your products?
- A. I don't recall specifically, I'm sorry.
- Q. And was there a trend -- directing your

- 1 attention to the budget for previous years, 1994, '95,
- '96 and the projection for 1997, had the company at
- 3 this time put increasing resources behind potassium
- 4 marketing for Klor Con?
- 5 A. Yes, we had.
- Q. And in 1994, what had you budgeted for Klor Con
- 7 marketing?
- 8 A. \$164,000.
- 9 Q. And by 1997, that was increasing to \$340,000.
- 10 Is that correct?
- 11 A. \$340,000.
- 12 Q. Almost -- more than double?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Let me direct your attention to USX 630, and if
- 15 I could ask you, Mr. Dritsas, to just quickly
- 16 familiarize yourself with this document. I'm going to
- focus my questions on the first several pages.
- Sir, can you identify or describe what USX 630
- 19 is?
- 20 A. Well, it appears to be information probably
- 21 from a training manual. It is not an entire document
- in and of itself. For example, there's different years
- in here. There's references to '94 data, '97, '95, but
- this was all probably taken from training manuals.
- Q. All right. Let me direct your attention

- 1 several pages down to page 331 through 333.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And the title of 331 reads, "Potassium Chloride
- 4 Market, 6/3/97."
- 5 Do you see that?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Was this document prepared on or about June of
- 8 '97?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. And along the left-hand column, do you see a
- 11 variety of products?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And the first product listed is Klor Con 10?
- 14 A. Yes, it is.
- 15 Q. That's your wax matrix product?
- 16 A. Yes, it is.
- 17 Q. And then there's K-Tab 10.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. Klotrix 10.
- 20 A. Kaon-Cl.
- 21 Q. What else?
- 22 A. Apothecon, Micro-K 10, ESI Lederle, Medeva,
- Ethex, K-Dur 10 mEq, K-Dur 20 mEq, K-Plus 10.
- Q. And that final one, K-Plus 10, was from what
- 25 company?

- 1 A. Alra.
- 2 Q. And sir, did your company compete with all of
- 3 these products?
- 4 A. Yes, we did. Alra I think was a new entry that
- 5 year, but we competed with all of them.
- Q. And is this list exhaustive of the products
- 7 that you were competing with in the potassium chloride
- 8 market?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. I direct your attention to the next page, there
- is a listing of some 8 mEg products. Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Could you read those into the record quickly?
- A. Sure. Klor Con 8, Slow K, Copley 8, Warner
- 15 Chilcott 8, Kaon-Cl 8, Abbott 8, Micro-K 8 and K-Plus
- 16 8.
- Q. And directing your attention to the next page.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Potassium chloride powder, and what products
- are listed in that first grouping of boxes?
- 21 A. Klor Con 20 mEq, Klor Con 20 mEq, KLor powder
- 22 20 mEq, Kayciel powder and Klor-Ves powder 20 mEq.
- Q. And who sold KLor powder at this time?
- A. KLor at that time was sold by Abbott.
- Q. Was Abbott quite a bit larger than your

- 1 company?
- 2 A. Yes, Abbott is a major multibillion dollar
- 3 pharmaceutical company.
- Q. And in effervescents, there's a reference to
- 5 your product and a product from another company, is
- 6 that Apothecon?
- 7 A. That's right, Klor Con/EF and then K-Lyte.
- Q. All right. Let me direct your attention now,
- 9 if I could, to tab 6. Tab 6 is USX 643, Mr. Dritsas.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And it begins on page 16064 and concludes on
- 12 16158. Do you see that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. We're not going to cover every
- page. What is USX 643, sir?
- 16 A. This is the 1998 marketing plan for -- if I can
- 17 just take a moment, please, to look at it. (Document
- 18 review.) This is the niacin franchise submitted for
- 19 Upsher-Smith.
- Q. Well, directing your attention to page 16085.
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. There's discussion there of the "Potassium
- 23 Franchise." Do you see that?
- A. I do. We have -- if I can just take a moment.
- Q. Yes, please.

- 1 A. (Further document review.) This is a
- 2 compilation of overviews used for planning period --
- 3 purposes, excuse me, where we look at promoted
- 4 products, and I have not looked through every page, but
- 5 it appears to me that we go through various promoted
- 6 products and then the tactical plans that we would do
- 7 to support those products. So, it should include, for
- 8 example, in the beginning, niacin. As you pointed out,
- 9 the Klor Con is next. There should be other products
- included in this as well. Prevalite follows.
- 11 Q. But this is a document that relates to your
- 12 promoted products at Upsher-Smith, sir. Is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. That's right.
- 15 Q. All right. Let me direct your attention to
- page 16085, the Potassium Executive Summary.
- 17 A. All right.
- Q. And this document, sir, was prepared on or
- about December 15, 1997. Is that correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And it's the 1998 plan for the Klor Con bulk
- 22 and private label tablets. Is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Directing your attention to the first
- 25 highlighted sentence, "Sales in the total KCl market

- 1 were relatively flat for several years with a trend
- 2 toward the 10 and 20 mEq strengths. Market leaders
- 3 have begun to trade price for volume to reverse their
- 4 downward trend, while the role of generics becomes more
- 5 important in this market."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you see where it says, "a trend towards 10
- 9 and 20 mEq strengths"?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now, the trend toward 20 mEq strengths would be
- 12 toward what product at this time?
- A. At that time, K-Dur 20.
- Q. All right. And because it's a trend, where
- were those sales coming from?
- 16 A. They were coming from the 8 and 10 primarily.
- 17 Q. Eight and 10 mEq tablets?
- 18 A. Yes, I'm sorry, wax matrix.
- 19 Q. Now, the next sentence says, "The 20 mEq
- 20 segment is holding an ASP of 0.34/tablet verses (sic)
- 21 the dramatically eroding ASP in the 8 and 10 mEq
- 22 markets."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, the reference to 8 and 10, is that to your

- own internal ASP for Upsher-Smith?
- 2 A. No, the ASP in this case was something we would
- 3 have looked at for the 20 mEq K-Dur product.
- Q. Okay. That first part of the sentence refers
- 5 to an ASP that somebody calculated at your firm?
- A. Right. The way in which they would come up
- 7 with an ASP is not very scientific, but it would be the
- 8 only method we would have since we don't have access to
- 9 their pricing. The product manager might look at the
- 10 whole market as described by IMS. So, to begin with,
- it's slightly faulted, because IMS does not track
- 12 WalMart, for example, but we would take that as a
- basis, and then we would take the entire dollars, and
- we would simply divide that by the amount of units that
- they're showing, and then we would say, well, that
- 16 gives us roughly an average selling price.
- 17 Q. And at this point in time, when Ms. Dolan and
- others prepared this document, did they know the actual
- 19 selling price of K-Dur 20?
- 20 A. No, you -- you wouldn't be able to figure out
- 21 the average selling price by that calculation, because
- you don't know additional discounts, free goods, market
- 23 share programs, rebates, any of those other things that
- 24 are in there, but it would -- it would serve the
- 25 purpose that she's looking at.

1 Q. Now, you mentioned that IMS data does not

- 2 include WalMart. Did I get that correct?
- 3 A. That's right.
- Q. In your experience in approaching and trying to
- 5 sell potassium to WalMart, do they tend to be
- 6 price-conscious in your experience?
- 7 A. Very price-conscious.
- Q. Do they try to get low prices?
- 9 A. You go to WalMart if you want low prices, yes,
- 10 sir.
- 11 Q. All right. May I turn your attention to the
- 12 next page?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. The highlighted language is, "USL will continue
- to promote to pharmacists, targeting high volume
- independents and select chains."
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Was that part of your strategy in late 1997,
- 20 early 1998?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says, "Klor Con will remain a major
- product for USL throughout 1998."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

O. Was that true when this document was written?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Was it true, in fact, during 1998?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Was that a major emphasis in your job and role
- 6 at Upsher-Smith?
- 7 A. Absolutely.
- Q. The sentence ends, "so it is imperative to
- 9 protect the brand and support the product where
- 10 necessary."
- 11 Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And is that something that you did for the Klor
- 14 Con franchise in potassium in 1998?
- 15 A. Yes, the potassium line from powder,
- 16 effervescent, 8 and 10, they were still in 1998 the
- 17 majority of our share of -- excuse me, the share of
- dollars, if you will, and I think contributing most of
- 19 the profits. So, clearly if you're head of the sales
- and marketing area, your performance, my performance,
- 21 my bonus, my incentives, were all based heavily on our
- 22 ability to maintain share and find new business for
- 23 Klor Con.
- Q. Let me direct your attention to the next page
- where there is a SWAT analysis, strengths, weaknesses,

opportunities, threats. Do you see those boxes?

- 2 A. I do.
- Q. Under Opportunities, it says, "Target MD's with
- 4 high blood pressure story."
- 5 What's that a reference to, sir?
- A. It's in reference to getting the doctors to
- 7 write for potassium, and in this case I assume we will
- 8 buy the list.
- 9 Q. Under Threats, the first two bullets say,
- "Increased competition in KCl market place; Increased
- 11 price sensitivity and generic pricing."
- 12 Do you see that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And was that your view of the potassium
- marketplace in late 1997?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And the final threat is, "Trend toward 20 mEq."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And what did that mean for Upsher-Smith?
- 21 A. What that meant was that we had to focus
- 22 efforts on going after the 20 mEg business. The threat
- generally, you list threats as external things outside
- of your internal environment, and in this case we're
- once again pointing out that there's a trend toward

- 1 that market.
- Now, the market itself isn't growing, so
- 3 they're taking away from 8 and 10 and other parts of
- 4 potassium. So, the threat then should be put into an
- 5 action plan by the product manager to say, if that's a
- 6 threat, how are you going to go against that threat?
- 7 Q. And were you selling a 20 mEq product at this
- 8 point in time, late 1997?
- 9 A. Other than our potassium powder, no, we weren't
- 10 selling a tablet.
- 11 Q. So, the trend towards 20 mEq, what do you
- 12 interpret that to mean? What's the threat referenced
- 13 here?
- 14 A. The K-Dur, the trend towards the K-Dur product.
- Q. And that was a threat to Klor Con?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. The Issues/Imperatives, the second one is,
- 18 "There is increased competition in the chains and
- independents from generics, specifically Apothecon."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that what you recall about the Apothecon
- 23 firm at this time?
- A. Yes, I do. They entered into the market, and
- 25 they immediately started gaining share. They were very

1 fiercely competitive from my viewpoint in terms of

- 2 their pricing.
- 3 Q. Let's go on to tab 7, if we could.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. USX 498. USX 498 is a memo to Bob Coleman from
- 6 Denise Dolan dated June 15, 1998.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Do both of these individuals work in your
- 9 department or were they in other areas in the company?
- 10 A. They both worked for me. Bob Coleman is the
- 11 director of marketing.
- 12 Q. And Ms. Dolan, do you remember what her title
- was at this time?
- 14 A. I believe she was the product manager.
- Q. Was she on the sales side or the marketing
- 16 side?
- 17 A. Denise is on the marketing side.
- 18 Q. All right. In the second grouping of bullets
- 19 comes the following language: "It is imperative to
- 20 maintain the customer base for Klor Con."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Was this your view in June of 1998 as well?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. It says, "The strength of the Klor Con market

share," I'm on the fifth bullet I think it is, "will

- 2 directly impact our ability to sell M20."
- 3 Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Why are you concerned about M20 in June of 1998
- 6 given the existence of the settlement agreement that
- 7 would put the entry date into the future for M20?
- 8 A. Well, because it gave us a date on which we
- 9 knew we would be able to come out with the product, and
- 10 we were building our physician base. We were using
- 11 Klor Con to get into there with our 10 mEq, and so
- 12 Denise's viewpoint would be that we need to make sure
- that we are well established. We need to expand our
- 14 presence there in anticipation of future line
- 15 extensions.
- 16 Q. Was that your viewpoint as well?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. The final bullet says, "We should continue to
- 19 target K-Dur 10 and 20 pharmacy customers with the Klor
- 20 Con 10 message."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. What was the -- what's that a reference to?
- A. Well, we were targeting the pharmacy customers
- and telling them about the reasons to make a

- 1 therapeutic substitution for every K-Dur prescription
- 2 that they got for 20 mEq, to use two of our 10s, and we
- 3 were pointing out in here that we need to continue that
- 4 tactic to support the strategy.
- 5 Q. Turning to the next page, reference is made in
- 6 the highlighted portion on page 872, "We have looked
- 7 into purchasing the physician data for K-Dur 20."
- 8 Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Why would you buy physician data -- why would
- 11 you consider buying physician data in June of 1998 for
- 12 K-Dur 20?
- 13 A. So that we could direct our efforts towards the
- 14 high prescribers of K-Dur on a broader basis. We could
- use this information, for example, to do direct mail
- 16 programs, to call on them. There are ways in which we
- 17 could promote our 10 mEq. The data is expensive. It's
- 18 \$10,000. So, you know, Denise is pointing out in here
- 19 that that's one of the things we could do.
- 20 Q. The -- skipping down to the next highlighted
- 21 portion, "In 1996, over 60% of the prescriptions were
- 22 written as 'substitution OK.'"
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. What does that mean?

- 1 A. Well, it would refer to two things really.
- 2 There are two ways in which a prescription could be
- 3 written substitution okay. One was the one I mentioned
- 4 earlier, which it is simply a generic prescription.
- 5 KCl 8, 10, 20 mEqs, three times a day, and that's --
- 6 that would be substitution okay obviously, because they
- 7 would have no need for an A-B rated product.
- 8 The other way is if they just write K-Dur, for
- 9 example, but they don't check DAW, then that means that
- 10 it's open. They're not specifying that it has to be
- 11 filled with that brand.
- Q. And this reference, "over 60% of prescriptions
- were written with 'substitution OK,'" was that a
- 14 reference to potassium?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And there it says, "This market is currently
- 17 pharmacy driven. Managed care, purchasing groups and
- 18 the pharmacists are making the majority of the
- 19 potassium decisions."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. What does that mean to you?
- 23 A. Well, what she is saying is that within this
- 24 market -- and I believe that the share had grown in
- 25 prescriptions at that time, maybe from 30 to 32

1 percent, something like that -- but what she's pointing

- 2 out is that still, the pharmacy really has the ultimate
- 3 decision on which product to dispense from her
- 4 viewpoint. So, the pharmacist is really going to be
- 5 important, because if he or she has the Klor Con 10 and
- 6 they want to substitute that for a prescription that
- 7 they get for the K-Dur 20, ultimately they're going to
- 8 be able to do that.
- 9 Q. At this point in time, June of 1998, was there
- 10 significant substitution back and forth between Klor
- 11 Con 10 and K-Dur 20 tablets?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. May I direct your attention now to tab 8, and
- if you would, please familiarize yourself with USX
- 15 1551. It begins on Bates number USL 13791 and ends on
- 16 13796. Just take a minute, if you would, sir.
- 17 A. (Document review.) Okay.
- Q. What is USX 1551, Mr. Dritsas?
- 19 A. This is an update that Denise provided to her
- 20 boss, Bob Coleman, regarding the 1998 business plan for
- 21 Klor Con.
- Q. And again, was Ms. Dolan working within your
- 23 department at the time this was prepared?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. In the highlighted section, "Beginning Q4 1997

1 --" is that a reference to the fourth quarter 1997?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. "-- Klor Con sales were soft. The competition
- 4 had increased dramatically in the potassium chloride
- 5 market with major attacks from Apothecon."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Was that your view of the potassium market in
- 9 1997?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what was Apothecon doing in 1997 to take
- 12 market share?
- 13 A. They were pricing very competitively, and we
- 14 lost some business to them.
- 15 Q. The next sentence says, "USL lost significant
- 16 business in the independent market."
- Is that a reference to the pharmacies?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. "As well as in the chains due to aggressive
- 20 pricing from Apothecon -- (for example, the loss of
- 21 American Stores to Apothecon in 1997)."
- 22 A. Yes.
- O. What is American Stores?
- A. American Drugstores is a chain, and we lost
- 25 their account. We had been in there for years.

1 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, at this time we would

- 2 offer USX 1551 for admission.
- 3 MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- 4 MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- 5 JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 1551 is admitted.
- 6 (USX Exhibit Number 1551 was admitted into
- 7 evidence.)
- 8 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 9 Q. Let me ask you to direct your attention, Mr.
- 10 Dritsas, to page 795.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. It says, "Activity Generated for High
- 13 Prescribers of K-Dur 20."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's the competitive product sold by
- 17 Schering?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And this is part of a marketing plan for Klor
- 20 Con. Is that correct?
- 21 A. That's right, Klor Con 10 mEq wax matrix
- 22 tablet.
- Q. Under the first bullet, Activity, sub-bullet,
- 24 Territory Sales, do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

Q. What does "territory sales" refer to in this

- 2 document?
- 3 A. Those individuals who call on pharmacies and
- 4 physicians from our home office in Minneapolis over the
- 5 phone.
- Q. That's your telephone sales force?
- 7 A. Right, by now we were calling them territory
- 8 sales, so...
- 9 Q. I see. It says, "Purchased DDD."
- 10 What's that a reference to?
- 11 A. That's the data that would tell us the
- 12 pharmacies that dispense high volumes of products, in
- this case it's high volumes of K-Dur.
- Q. And why were you targeting high volume K-Dur
- 15 pharmacies at this time?
- 16 A. In order to take business away from them.
- 17 Q. The next bullet says, "National Accounts."
- What's that a reference to?
- 19 A. Those are the representatives who fly out and
- 20 call on the headquarters for the chains, for the
- 21 wholesalers, managed care.
- Q. And the bullet says, "Targeted long term care
- 23 (LTC) and select chains for switch programs."
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And what is a switch program?

1 A. A therapeutic switch program. That would be

- 2 where you would make some type of arrangement that --
- 3 with them so that if they would switch over customers
- 4 from the K-Dur to our product, there would be some
- 5 market share or other things.
- Q. The final bullet there says, "Chain Accounts
- 7 are less inclined to target K-Dur 20, but a few have
- 8 expressed interest in targeting microencapsulated
- 9 products due to recent price increases."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Was that your view of what price increases were
- doing to some of the chain accounts?
- 14 A. Yes, definitely. Around that time period, the
- microencapsulated products began to increase their
- 16 price slightly, so chains were interested in -- we had
- 17 an opportunity, in other words, to take business away
- from a microencapsulated product, even though we
- weren't A-B rated to the microencapsulated products.
- Q. Then the next activity says, "Mailings:
- 21 Initial mailing sent to top 12,000 prescribers of
- 22 K-Dur."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Now, prescribers there, is that a reference to

- 1 doctors?
- 2 A. That's physicians, yes.
- 3 Q. All right. So, that's a direct marketing
- 4 campaign to doctors against K-Dur 20?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And what product were you promoting?
- 7 A. K-Dur -- I'm sorry, Klor Con 10 wax matrix.
- Q. Under Action Plan, bullet, "Purchase list of
- 9 top 10,000 high prescribers of K-Dur 20."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And again, that's a reference to doctors?
- 13 A. The doctors who are the high prescribers of
- 14 K-Dur 20, yes.
- Q. And why were you purchasing this data at this
- 16 point in time?
- 17 A. We had a mail campaign, direct mail campaign,
- that we were going to send out to them talking about
- 19 The Economical K, which is our branding position for
- 20 Klor Con 10 mEq wax matrix, and we were going to do a
- 21 series of mailings to these top prescribers and then
- 22 call them.
- Q. And why was it The Economical K? Why was Klor
- 24 Con The Economical K?
- 25 A. Well, the idea behind it is that potassium is

- 1 potassium is potassium, and in the doctor's minds -- in
- 2 the research we did, that's what we have consistently
- 3 found in anything that we've done, is that they just
- 4 think of potassium as not too terribly exciting, and
- 5 it's just potassium, any of the potassium supplements
- 6 will all do the same thing. So, we tried to
- 7 distinguish ourselves as, yes, but when you think of us
- 8 or you think of potassium, think of The Economical K,
- 9 and then we had a branding.
- 10 Q. When did you start using the tag line "The
- 11 Economical K"?
- 12 A. I believe we started using that in 1997.
- 13 Q. The next bullet says, "Cost savings by using 2
- 14 Klor Con 10 Tablets instead of 1 K-Dur 20," do you see
- 15 that?
- 16 A. Let me find it, I'm sorry.
- 17 Q. It's under the bullet, "Develop --"
- 18 A. Cost savings, yes.
- 19 Q. The bullet about the six direct mail pieces.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And was this a message that was sent to
- 22 physicians in 1998?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And it was encouraging them to drop K-Dur. Is
- 25 that correct?

1 A. Well, it was to physicians, so they wouldn't be

- 2 dropping it necessarily. They would be writing
- 3 prescriptions for our product.
- Q. But at the point of prescription, to substitute
- 5 Klor Con instead of K-Dur.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Let me direct your attention to tab 9, USX 480.
- If I may, Your Honor, I know at some point we
- 9 will have a lunch break, but if I can finish this
- 10 binder. We're pretty much done with the binder, but I
- 11 think we can get it finished up in five or ten minutes.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Let's press on until sometime
- 13 after 1:00.
- 14 MR. GIDLEY: All right.
- 15 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 16 Q. Tab 9, Mr. Dritsas --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. -- is USX 480.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And could you identify this document for the
- 21 record, please?
- 22 A. This is a letter that was sent to those high
- 23 prescribers that were identified earlier as a way of a
- 24 mailing, high prescribers of K-Dur 20.
- Q. And it says, "Prescribe Klor Con Tablets for

- 1 the treatment and prevention of hypokalemia. If you
- 2 are writing prescriptions for 20 mEq or potassium per
- 3 day, Klor Con 10 Tablets cost only 36 cents per day.
- 4 This represents a 5% savings verses the leading brand
- of 20 mEq potassium tablets."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And that leading brand of 20 mEq potassium
- 9 tablets, what brand would that be, sir?
- 10 A. That's K-Dur 20.
- 11 Q. And this is a letter, a form letter that went
- 12 out to doctors?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And who -- over whose signature did this letter
- 15 go out?
- 16 A. That's my signature. It would be under my
- 17 signature.
- Q. And again, the boxed information that compares
- 19 two wholesale -- average wholesale prices, that's
- 20 comparing K-Dur 20 to what product?
- A. To our Klor Con 10.
- 22 Q. And you were making a direct price comparison
- between the Klor Con 10 and the K-Dur 20, sir?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Let me direct your attention to the next page

of this exhibit. Is this another -- what is this page?

- 2 A. This is -- let me look for a moment, please.
- 3 Q. Sure.
- 4 A. (Document review.) This is another letter that
- 5 went out. It was a series of letters that went to high
- 6 prescribers of K-Dur.
- 7 O. And did this --
- 8 A. This is yet another one.
- 9 Q. I'm sorry.
- 10 Did this letter actually go out to doctors?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And it says, "Doctor, we encourage you to
- 13 consider the price savings your patients will realize
- if you provide them with the possibility of taking The
- Economical K, Klor Con, " and skipping, it says, "For
- 16 example, note the following price comparison between
- 17 Klor Con 10 mEq tablets versus K-Dur 20 mEq tablets."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And again, what's the marketing message here to
- 21 doctors?
- 22 A. The marketing message here is that we're The
- 23 Economical K. There's a message in here earlier
- 24 regarding the long-range cost of their potassium
- 25 therapy. Again, these patients are potentially going

- 1 to be on this for the rest of their lives, so we're
- 2 asking them to think about the long-range costs that
- 3 are going to be associated with this potassium, and why
- 4 not prescribe The Economical K?
- 5 Q. And you're making a direct comparison between
- 6 the Klor Con 10 mEqs and the K-Dur 20 mEq. Is that
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And about what time did this letter go out,
- 10 sir?
- 11 A. It went out during that same time period.
- 12 Actually, I -- I can't see from the bottom on my copy.
- Q. Okay, but there's a date code at the bottom.
- 14 It just may not be legible.
- 15 A. Right.
- 16 Q. Okay. It says here, "Price is not the only
- 17 reason to prescribe Klor Con 10 tablets."
- 18 Are you with me?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. "All Klor Con products undergo the same
- 21 rigorous testing as other branded potassium products."
- Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. So, was price your only message or did you have
- other messages to doctors?

- 1 A. No, it was -- it was a branded message that we
- 2 had been very successful in doing, you know, prescribe
- 3 it as a brand, get the benefits of a generic. So, you
- 4 know, quality of product, we'll provide the education,
- 5 we can provide samples, we can support it to you in the
- 6 way that major companies do or the branded -- other
- 7 branded products could do, but your patients will get
- 8 an economical generically priced product.
- 9 Q. Let me direct your attention now to tab 10, USX
- 10 380.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. This is a document that looks like an e-mail.
- 13 Is that correct?
- 14 A. It was.
- Q. And who is John G. Adams at the top of the
- 16 page?
- 17 A. By 1999 when this document was -- or e-mail was
- sent to me, John Adams had now had the responsibilities
- 19 for the Klor Con line.
- 20 O. And did he take over from someone else?
- 21 A. From Denise. Denise is still in our -- Denise
- 22 went part-time, and she works in a different part of
- 23 marketing now.
- Q. I see. And the subject of this e-mail is
- 25 Apothecon Pricing. Is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And at this time, Mr. Adams was in charge of
- 3 the -- some of the marketing information for Klor Con.
- 4 Is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And what's he reporting here to you about
- 7 Apothecon?
- A. Well, he's giving me the update on Apothecon,
- 9 because I continued to be concerned about their fierce
- 10 competitive pricing, and then I wanted to get a handle
- on to what extent their aggressive pricing strategies
- were hurting our products.
- Q. And were they hurting your sales at this time?
- 14 A. They were.
- MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, we would move for the
- 16 admission of USX 380 at this time.
- MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- MS. SHORES: No objection.
- 19 JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 380 is admitted.
- 20 (USX Exhibit Number 380 was admitted into
- 21 evidence.)
- 22 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. May I direct your attention to tab 11, USX 484,
- 24 Mr. Dritsas.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 O. And what is 484?
- 2 A. If I could just take a moment. (Document
- 3 review.) This is an update that's provided by the
- 4 product managers. In this case this update is
- 5 pertaining to the Klor Con 8 and 10 franchise.
- Q. And was this a document prepared in your sales
- 7 and marketing department?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Directing your attention to the highlighted
- 10 language on page 3328, "A tactic was implemented in
- 11 1999 to high prescribers of K-Dur. This tactic is
- 12 designed to have physicians prescribe two 10 mEq
- tablets versus one 20 mEq resulting in a 56% price
- 14 savings."
- Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And sir, did that campaign actually take place
- 18 in 1999?
- 19 A. Yes, it did. The letters that we referred to
- were part of that campaign.
- Q. Let me direct your attention now to page 330.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And this document, sir, by the way, speaks as
- of October '99. Is that correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

Q. And now directing your attention to page 330,

- bullet, "Select chains and mail order accounts are
- 3 being targeted to implement a tactic designed to offer
- 4 Klor Con 10 Tablets as a therapeutic alternative to the
- 5 more expensive and less profitable microencapsulated
- 6 products."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And what products did you have in mind at that
- 10 time for targeting the Klor Con 10 against?
- 11 A. Micro-K 10 and the Ethex product.
- 12 Q. And in the bullet it says, "Beginning in
- 13 August, a direct mail campaign was initiated that was
- 14 targeted to high prescribers of K-Dur. This tactic is
- designed to have physicians prescribe 2 Klor Con 10
- 16 Tablets versus 1 K-Dur 20 based on the quality of Klor
- 17 Con as well as the 56% savings."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And were those mailings sent?
- 21 A. Yes, they were.
- Q. And how many doctors got the mailings?
- 23 A. Well, as you can see here, we talk about the
- 24 first two had already gone out to 10,200, there would
- 25 be a total of six waves planned, so that's two of the

1 six. We generated over 280 leads for physicians, and

- 2 those are the ones that we would call and follow up on.
- 3 Q. Did you consider that campaign successful?
- 4 A. Very successful, yes.
- 5 Q. And there's reference made here to further
- 6 waves, three, four, five and six. Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Did those mailings occur?
- 9 A. Well, through this time period in October, we
- 10 had sent through the first three mailings, and then
- it's referenced that we plan on sending four in
- 12 November and then five and six later in November and
- 13 then December.
- Q. And turning your attention to the next page,
- the highlighted language on page 331 says, "The fourth
- 16 and fifth wave of a new direct mail campaign designed
- 17 to have physicians prescribe 2 10 mEq tablets instead
- of 1 20 mEq tablet were sent in November to high
- 19 prescribers of K-Dur. BRC's are included in the fifth
- 20 and sixth waves."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Did that campaign actually take place?
- 24 A. Yes. This is a page that's separate from the
- 25 earlier document. This page would have been generated

- in December as part of our operational committee notes
- 2 to talk about some highlights that happened in
- 3 November. So, this shows that the wave of the mailings
- 4 did, in fact, go out, that there was a BRC, which is a
- 5 business reply card, so that physicians could then fill
- 6 out their name and address and say, yes, I'm
- 7 interested, please send me more information or have a
- 8 representative call me.
- 9 Q. And again, that's a campaign designed to drive
- sales of Klor Con 8 and 10 against K-Dur 20?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Let me direct your attention to tab 12, sir,
- 13 USX 425.
- 14 A. Yes, if I can just take a moment.
- 15 Q. Sure.
- 16 A. Thank you. USX 425?
- Q. And sir, just -- what for the record is USX
- 18 425? It bears a date at the bottom 12/23/1999.
- 19 A. Let me just take a look, please. (Document
- 20 review.) It's -- this is part of -- this is actually
- 21 an addendum to something that would have been done for
- 22 Klor Con earlier, and I can't say that this was all
- from the same document.
- Q. All right. Which pages appear to be part of
- 25 the addendum?

1 A. Definitely the first two pages are part of --

- 2 the first three pages are part of the addendum.
- Q. All right, my questions are on pages 1 and 2.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. Directing your attention to page -- the Bates
- 6 number is very fine, but it's the first page of USX
- 7 425. It says, "Private Label Potassium chloride
- 8 Addendum" at the top. Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. "Bulk has enabled Upsher-Smith to gain business
- 11 through government, as well as mail order
- 12 opportunities."
- Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. What is "bulk" a reference to?
- 16 A. That's the 5000 and 10,000 bulk presentation of
- 17 Klor Con 10 mEq.
- 18 Q. All right. And the next sentence says, "This
- 19 has become increasingly important with the advent of
- 20 generic competition. Players like Apothecon and Abbott
- 21 have gained share at the expense of our brand as well
- 22 as private label products."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that your recollection of what Apothecon and

1 Abbott were doing in this time period?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And how were they competing?
- 4 A. Largely on price.
- 5 Q. Down below, "Rational/Issues: Apothecon is
- 6 gaining market share in the 10 mEq potassium chloride
- 7 market through aggressive pricing. Apothecon grew 487
- 8 percent in units from '96 to '97."
- 9 Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Is that 487 percent a typo?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. That was their growth?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Between '96 and '97?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. In potassium chloride?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And they had a 10 mEq product that was doing
- 20 that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says in the next bullet, "Apothecon has
- 23 secured chain and wholesale generic source business
- 24 with lower pricing."
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Was the Apothecon product therapeutically
- 3 equivalent with your product?
- A. Well, it's not A-B rated to our product if
- 5 that's your question.
- 6 Q. Does it deliver potassium in --
- 7 A. It does. It's a therapeutic equivalent. It's
- 8 not an A-B rated product, yes.
- 9 Q. The final bullet says, "In order maintain
- 10 private label accounts and compete for new business in
- 11 the generic/source arena, we must entertain a lower
- 12 pricing strategy for all 10 mEq private label accounts
- 13 (with the exception of Altana)."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And what is that a reference to?
- 17 A. What it's saying is we must entertain a lower
- 18 pricing strategy. Some of the accounts for whom we
- 19 provide private label had pressured us to consider
- 20 lowering our costs to them.
- Q. And did you?
- 22 A. As a result of some of the competitive
- pressures that they were facing, we lowered our costs
- 24 to them. Of course, they price it wherever they want,
- 25 but yes, we did.

1 Q. And those firms were competing in potassium

- 2 chloride as well, were they not?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, directing your attention to the top of
- 5 page -- the next page, which says at the top
- 6 Tactics/Scenarios, it says first, "Leveraging Tactics:
- 7 Klor Con: Target key brands such as K-Dur 10 and 20
- 8 with our Klor Con brand message to pursue market
- 9 segment with higher ASP."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And sir, what products were you using to target
- 13 10 and 20 at this time?
- 14 A. The 10 mEg wax matrix.
- Q. And that reference that's highlighted, "Lower
- 16 the acquisition price to all 10 mEq private label
- 17 accounts," is that the same phenomenon you just
- 18 described?
- 19 A. That's just what I was describing, yes.
- Q. All right. Directing your attention to tab 13,
- 21 USX 410.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Would you take a minute to familiarize yourself
- 24 with USX 410, and I would point out there are a few
- 25 pages at the back that you may want to focus on. They

- 1 may not be part of this exhibit, but -- they are, for
- 2 the record, part of the exhibit, but just take a look.
- A. Okay, just give me a moment, please. (Document
- 4 review.) Okay.
- 5 Q. Just to assist you, Mr. Dritsas, it appears to
- 6 me that pages 190259 to 350 appear to be together, and
- 7 the last several pages starting on 351 appear to me to
- 8 be extraneous, but why don't you identify, if you can,
- 9 what these pages are.
- 10 A. Oh, this is -- this document is complete
- 11 through 190350.
- 12 Q. All right, and my questions won't go beyond
- 13 350.
- 14 A. Okay.
- Q. Can you identify what this document is between
- 16 190259 and 350, sir?
- 17 A. It's a training manual.
- 18 Q. And can you -- is this your training manual at
- 19 Upsher-Smith?
- 20 A. Yes. I'm sorry, this is the Upsher-Smith
- 21 Training Manual. This was probably from around the
- 22 year 2000.
- Q. And for what product line is this a training
- 24 manual?
- 25 A. And this is the Klor Con training.

1 Q. And how was this used within Upsher-Smith?

- 2 A. It's used to train all of our new
- 3 representatives who come in. It isn't rebuilt, by the
- 4 way, every year. Some of this material might be older
- 5 than 2000. If it's still pertinent, we just carry it
- forward, but I believe 2000 is probably the most recent
- 7 update we had in here.
- 8 Q. All right.
- 9 I would now move, Your Honor, for the admission
- 10 of USX 410.
- MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 410 is admitted.
- 14 (USX Exhibit Number 410 was admitted into
- 15 evidence.)
- 16 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Let me start on page 261, Mr. Dritsas,
- 18 Technical Training Objectives.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And by the way, who would get this training?
- 21 Who would have received this manual?
- 22 A. Everyone who was in the sales and marketing
- area would receive this training, every new person that
- 24 we hired, for example, who would be in our territory
- 25 sales group. Today, because we do have a field force,

- 1 every field representative would also receive this.
- 2 It's standard. And they would have to pass a test, as
- 3 a matter of fact, in order to be allowed to go out and
- 4 promote our products.
- 5 Q. Now, as part of your training in the first part
- of 2000, it says under the final category on this page
- 7 for Objectives, Competitive Products, "Compare and
- 8 contrast Klor Con products to competitive products,
- 9 including K-Dur and Micro-K."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And was that your view, sir, of K-Dur and Klor
- 13 Con, they were competing products at this time?
- 14 A. Yes, absolutely. They were all part of the KCl
- 15 market.
- Q. Let's flip down to page 266.
- 17 A. 266, okay.
- 18 Q. There are a variety of training objectives
- 19 listed here. I'm interested in the sixth one. It
- 20 says, "Use product knowledge and selling skills to
- 21 target therapeutic substitution opportunities with Klor
- 22 Con, i.e., Micro-K and K-Dur 20 mEq."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And was this, again, to train -- what's going

- 1 on here?
- 2 A. The objectives for the sales representatives
- 3 when calling on physicians or pharmacists is to get
- 4 them to make a therapeutic substitution for our Klor
- 5 Con 10 in place of in this case Micro-K or K-Dur 20
- 6 mEq.
- 7 Q. And the Klor Con products here would be --
- 8 would include Klor Con 10 wax matrix?
- 9 A. It -- yes, the emphasis would be in this case
- 10 on the Klor Con 10 wax matrix.
- 11 Q. Let me direct your attention to the next
- 12 portion of this training manual at Upsher-Smith for
- 13 Klor Con. The next page, 267, says, "Considerations
- for Selection of Potassium Supplements."
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And it looks to be a brochure, and going two
- 17 further pages down to 269 --
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. -- it says, "Clinical Studies."
- Do you recall this brochure?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says in the third bullet under the
- 23 summary of this clinical studies, it says, "The low
- 24 incidence of adverse effects and low dropout rate
- 25 suggest that Klor Con tablets were well tolerated and

- well accepted by the patients in the study."
- 2 Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And sir, is that something that you would be
- 5 able to use in your marketing of Klor Con?
- A. Yes, this was -- these were the actual clinical
- 7 studies that were done in order to gain approval for
- 8 Klor Con, and so we can reference -- we have
- 9 ulcerogenicity studies, we have pre-endoscopic studies,
- 10 and that was all part of what was done in order to
- prove with the FDA that it is, in fact, well tolerated,
- 12 safe and effective -- not effective, well tolerated and
- 13 safe. So, this is referencing the clinical studies
- 14 that we did in order to do that.
- Q. And when you say well accepted, you mean well
- 16 accepted by the patients?
- 17 A. Exactly.
- 18 Q. The next page is an endoscopic study.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And what was the conclusion of this study?
- 21 A. Well, the conclusion is that the damage was not
- 22 greater after administration of either potassium
- 23 chloride extended-release tablet than after
- 24 administration of a placebo. So, in this case, they
- 25 looked at the 10 mEq of ours and then they looked at

1 the Slow K and they looked at the placebo and said

- 2 there's no damage from this.
- 3 Q. And within the confines of this study, there
- 4 wasn't any damage worse than the placebo.
- 5 A. Right.
- 6 Q. Directing your attention to page 275.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. There appears an Executive Summary.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. It says, "Both wax-matrix tablets and
- 11 microencapsulated, extended-release potassium products
- 12 are comparable in terms of efficacy and safety,
- 13 although the tablets may be smaller and easier to
- swallow than the microencapsulated products."
- Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And again, is that something you believed at
- 18 this time?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And was this a marketing message that you used
- 21 to market Klor Con against K-Dur 20?
- 22 A. Yes, it is, and as a matter of fact, this
- 23 particular piece was used in order to support some of
- the formulary decisions that we talked about earlier
- with managed care, so that they could make a decision

1 to have a preference for Klor Con. So, this was part

- 2 of the information that backed their decision to have a
- 3 therapeutic substitution made.
- 4 Q. Let me direct your attention further down in
- 5 the training manual, and again, we're in USX 410 at
- 6 page 291.
- 7 A. Okay.
- Q. And there's discussion of liquid, powders, and
- 9 a concluding paragraph, "It is important to note that
- 10 liquids, effervescent tablets and sustained-release
- 11 tablets are all equally effective in replacing
- 12 potassium and minimizing side effects. Patient
- preference and setting is generally the deciding factor
- 14 for which product is used. For example, a nursing home
- 15 resident who cannot swallow tablets may require a
- 16 liquid preparation, while many patients leading an
- 17 active life may prefer the convenience of a tablet."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And sir, did you believe that at the time this
- 21 manual was prepared?
- 22 A. Yes, we believed it, and I think if you looked
- 23 at the share of total prescriptions, you could see that
- they were spread across all the various forms. So, I
- 25 think that would substantiate that.

- 1 Q. Now, directing your attention to the next page,
- 2 there's a listing of available potassium products. Do
- 3 you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And there are a variety of products listed
- 6 there, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And they're not all potassium chloride, are
- 9 they?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. What are some of the other forms of potassium
- 12 that appear on that table?
- 13 A. Potassium gluconate, potassium chloride
- 14 bicarbonate. Those are the -- potassium acetate.
- Q. And in your view at this time, did all of these
- 16 products compete for the sale of potassium in the U.S.
- 17 at this time?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And included in the chart is K-Dur 10 and 20,
- 20 is it not?
- 21 A. I just need to find it, I'm sorry. Yes, sorry.
- Q. And in the box above K-Dur 10 appears what
- 23 products?
- A. Klor Con 10, K-Tab, K-Plus 10, Klotrix,
- 25 various.

- 1 Q. All competitive products?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Let me direct your attention now to page 305.
- 4 Are you there?
- 5 A. Yep.
- Q. It's a market summary.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Would this come -- would this have come out of
- 9 your department, this summary?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And the second paragraph reads, "The potassium
- market has remained relatively stable despite generic
- 13 competition; however, market pressures includes:
- Price; increased emphasis on the 20 mEg; increased
- price erosion in the 8 and 10 mEq arenas; generic
- 16 competition from branded companies; consolidation and
- increased promotion in the microencapsulated arena."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Did you agree that all five of those pressures
- 21 were coming to bear on the potassium market?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And this business about increased emphasis on
- 24 the 20 mEq, why would that be relevant in the first
- 25 guarter of 2000 to people being trained to sell Klor

- 1 Con 10?
- 2 A. Because it would tell them where to target
- 3 their efforts, to go after the 20 mEq prescribers or
- 4 the pharmacists who are dispensing high volumes of the
- 5 20 mEq tablet of K-Dur.
- Q. And the first market pressure listed here is
- 7 price. Is that correct?
- 8 A. That's right.
- 9 Q. Would you agree with that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Let me direct your attention to page 308, and
- we're just about at a breaking point.
- Mr. Dritsas, this is a page that says "Position
- 14 Strategy," and again, it's from the Klor Con training
- manual.
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you see the final paragraph there, "USL will
- 18 continue to target high prescribers of K-Dur with Klor
- 19 Con Tablet mailings"?
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. "These mailings are designed to build awareness
- and generate leads for Klor Con, The Economical K. The
- 24 message will focus on the cost savings for patients
- 25 (56%) that can be realized by prescribing two 10 mEq

1 tablets instead of one 20 mEq tablet without

- 2 sacrificing quality."
- 3 Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And was that something that you wanted trainees
- 6 to know at this time in your company?
- 7 A. Absolutely, that was the whole selling
- 8 strategy. That was our positioning and our message to
- 9 the physicians.
- 10 Q. It says, "A sell sheet specifically targeted at
- 11 physicians is designed to reinforce the cost savings
- message versus K-Dur 20 and the quality of Klor Con 10
- 13 Tablets."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And again, sir, was it important to tell
- 17 trainees that you were gunning for K-Dur 20 at this
- 18 time?
- 19 A. Absolutely.
- Q. Finally, it says, "Additional expenditures will
- 21 be reviewed for programs that can effectively encourage
- 22 pharmacists at mail service or chain pharmacies to
- intervene on the patients' behalf to encourage a switch
- from K-Dur 20 to Klor Con 10."
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And is that a therapeutic interchange?
- 3 A. That is a therapeutic interchange.
- 4 Q. And that would be a phone call from the
- 5 pharmacist to the doctor, for instance?
- 6 A. Yes, it would.
- 7 Q. And directing your attention to the next page,
- 8 we see a document that we saw earlier, and it's dated
- 9 January 1, 2000.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. It's the box. And again, this is a box that
- would have been prepared by the marketing department?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And these are all products that you competed
- 15 with at this time?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. So, Klor Con 10 in the first box competed with
- 18 K-Dur 20 down at the lower box?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. All right. Moreover, directing your attention
- 21 to page 312, KCl Manufactures and Distributors, "The
- following is a list of all competitors and distributors
- that sell 8 and 10 mEq potassium chloride products."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Could you take a minute and count those
- 2 producers, and don't -- try not to double-count, if you
- 3 can, sir.
- 4 A. (Document review.) I counted 27 of the --
- 5 Q. Twenty-seven manufacturers and distributors
- 6 selling potassium chloride at this time?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you were competing with all of them, sir?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Let me direct your attention to a series of
- 11 pages, it's the next section of this document. Let me
- 12 start off with the front end of this section, page 320.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Klor Con Pharmacy Issues and Objections, and
- 15 could you familiarize yourself with the next three or
- 16 four pages very quickly?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. How did this -- what's going on in these pages
- 19 from the standpoint of training your sales and
- 20 marketing force?
- 21 A. Well, we provide them with mock situations, if
- you will, so that when they go into training, they can
- 23 role-play, and these are the type of situations that we
- 24 put them in. So, in other words, you have the first
- 25 situation where a customer might say to you, I stocked

1 Klor Con in the past, but now I'm getting it less for

- 2 some other.
- 3 And then the trainers are providing probes to
- 4 begin with on what the representatives can do, and then
- 5 a number of selling statements to support that.
- 6 It's -- we provide a need satisfaction selling model
- 7 for training for our entire department, and this is the
- 8 model that we go through.
- 9 Q. Directing your attention to page 323.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. There's a little heading that reads, "Most of
- our potassium movement is in the K-Dur 20 mEq."
- Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And in this role-playing script, what's that --
- 16 who's saying that?
- 17 A. So, in this case, the pharmacist says to you as
- 18 the representative, most of our potassium movement is
- 19 in the K-Dur 20, and so the -- your response then as
- 20 the rep is to probe, ask them -- there's a number of
- 21 questions that you can ask. For example, how often is
- 22 cost an issue for your K-Dur customers? Then it
- provides a selling statement. So, you can turn around
- then in this situation and say, you know, I have many
- 25 pharmacists who use Klor Con 10 mEq for those customers

- 1 who complain about the costs of K-Dur 20. With just a
- 2 quick call to the doctor, you can offer these customers
- 3 a name brand product that offers a substantial savings
- 4 compared to the K-Dur 20 mEq.
- 5 Q. And just listening to the responses on the
- 6 probes, would this permit your sales force to learn
- 7 what the patients were actually doing?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And directing your attention to the selling
- 10 statements, the second bullet there, is that a -- kind
- of a scripted answer? What's going on there?
- 12 A. The one I just read?
- 13 Q. The one that begins, "I do have many
- 14 pharmacists who use Klor Con 10 mEq for those
- 15 customers --"
- 16 A. Yes, that's a selling statement.
- Q. So, the person at Upsher-Smith would say, "I do
- have many pharmacists who use Klor Con 10 mEq for those
- 19 customers who complain about the costs of K-Dur 20
- 20 mEq"?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- Q. And was that, in fact, true?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. That wasn't just a selling statement; that was
- 25 true?

1 A. We wouldn't make a selling statement if it

- 2 weren't based on the facts.
- 3 Q. The second sentence says, "With just a quick
- 4 call to the doctor, you can offer these customers a
- 5 name brand product that offers a substantial savings
- 6 compared to the K-Dur 20 mEq."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And again, was that a script that you were
- training people to use at Upsher-Smith?
- 11 A. That's right.
- 12 Q. And did people have conversations like this at
- 13 your company?
- 14 A. This is how we were accomplishing it, yes.
- They didn't have to read it from the script. This is
- 16 just from a training standpoint, because we don't have
- our people actually reading scripts, but when they
- 18 engage in conversation, this provides them with a basis
- 19 for making the transition from K-Dur over to Klor Con
- 20 10 for that therapeutic substitution.
- Q. All right. Here's my last -- I'm sorry, here's
- 22 my last page.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Page 347.
- 25 A. Okay.

1 Q. And what is page 347 out of the training

- 2 manual?
- 3 A. I love this page. This is an ad I happened to
- 4 come up with, but it's something that we did to the
- 5 physicians. This was one of our first ads. You can
- 6 see on there we're talking about combining the value
- 7 with quality to cut the therapy costs in half.
- 8 Consider the possibilities. Proven effective in
- 9 maintaining serum potassium levels, well tolerated,
- 10 well accepted by patients, may significantly reduce
- 11 co-pays for managed care plans.
- 12 And this is playing off that strategy that we
- talked about earlier where your co-pay might actually
- be less for the Klor Con product than it would be for
- the K-Dur, reminding physicians of that.
- 16 Q. Mr. Dritsas, how can you date this document?
- 17 A. You can date it on the bottom here, on the
- 18 right, under Upsher-Smith, you know, where it says
- 1-800, if you see the KT 146 AMD, that refers to the
- 20 mailing to the doctors, now we know it's a doctors
- 21 mailing.
- 22 Q. Right.
- 23 A. 09, which would have been September, of 1999,
- 24 and it looks like 25,000 of those went out.
- Q. And what's on this prescription pad?

1 A. The prescription pad says, "Klor Con 2 X 10

- 2 mEq," and then the doctor's signature.
- Q. And what are you competing against in this
- 4 advertisement?
- 5 A. We are competing directly against K-Dur 20 mEq
- 6 tablet.
- 7 Q. And it says in the bullet, "Patients may save
- 8 up to 56% per prescription by taking two Klor Con 10
- 9 mEq tablets instead of one K-Dur 20 tablet."
- 10 Did I get that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. The prior bullet talks about co-pays.
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. What's the significance of the prior bullet?
- 15 A. Well, if we're on a formulary where the Klor
- 16 Con has a preferred status, for example, there are
- 17 generally speaking tiered co-payments that managed care
- uses in order to persuade consumers and doctors to use
- 19 the alternatives they've chosen. So, in this case --
- 20 this was actually taken by a Scott Levin Survey, an
- 21 outside party that did a survey of managed care
- co-payments, where it compared the co-payment for Klor
- 23 Con in these plans, which would be \$6.19, compared to
- 24 anywhere from \$12 up to \$26 for the K-Dur.
- 25 Q. And would that be an example of the preferred

1	formula	ry status that you were talking about earlier?
2	А.	Yes.
3	Q.	All right.
4		Your Honor, we're at a natural breaking point.
5		JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, let's adjourn for lunch
6	until 2	:20.
7		(Whereupon, at 1:25 p.m., a lunch recess was
8	taken.)	
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1 AFTERNOON SESSION

- 2 (2:20 p.m.)
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Mr. Nields?
- 4 MR. NIELDS: Your Honor, I will try to speak
- 5 more distinctly this time, housekeeping.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 7 MR. NIELDS: I have had a chance to confer with
- 8 Mr. Eisenstat, and we are both comfortable with the
- 9 demonstrative exhibits that were used yesterday with
- 10 Mr. Lauda as being received for identification and
- 11 being used in a normal manner that the Court would use
- 12 demonstratives.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Do you have the exhibit
- 14 numbers?
- MR. NIELDS: Yes, they are 2264, 2266 and 2267.
- 16 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, and you are offering
- 17 those three exhibits, and no objection, Mr. Eisenstat?
- MR. EISENSTAT: That's correct, Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE CHAPPELL: They are being admitted for
- 20 identification. They were demonstrative exhibits used
- 21 by an expert.
- 22 Are those CX numbers or-
- MR. NIELDS: I'm sorry, SPX, each one of them
- is an SPX number.
- 25 JUDGE CHAPPELL: So, SPX 2264, SPX 2266, SPX

1 2267 are admitted. So, Mr. Eisenstat trusts you, but

- 2 he's verifying. Is that why he's here?
- MR. NIELDS: Actually, it was luck that he came
- 4 in. He came for other reasons, and we had a brief
- 5 collaboration.
- 6 (SPX Exhibit Numbers 2264, 2266 and 2267 were
- 7 admitted into evidence.)
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, anything else?
- 9 MR. NIELDS: Nothing else for me, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thank you.
- MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I raise one
- 12 scheduling matter, please?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: As opposed to later? I'd
- 14 rather hear it now, sure.
- MS. BOKAT: Thank you. Our answer -- complaint
- 16 counsel's answer to Upsher's motion to dismiss is due
- 17 tomorrow. One of the people working on it has had a
- death in the family and has to be at a funeral
- 19 tomorrow, so we were wondering if we could have until
- 20 Monday to file that answer.
- I conferred with Mr. Curran, and he says while
- he does care about the timing on his motion, he would
- 23 not oppose complaint counsel's request.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, with that understanding,
- 25 that will be fine. So, it will be due Monday.

- 1 MS. BOKAT: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 2 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Sure.
- 3 Mr. Gidley, I think we're ready for you now.
- 4 MR. GIDLEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 5 JUDGE CHAPPELL: I note that the drugs are
- 6 still up on the Bench here.
- 7 MR. GIDLEY: We are going to have to entrust
- 8 them to the custody of White & Case very soon, Your
- 9 Honor.
- 10 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 11 Q. Mr. Dritsas, good afternoon.
- 12 A. Good afternoon.
- Q. May I direct you to the second binder of
- 14 Dritsas exhibits.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And may I direct your attention, sir, to tab
- 17 14.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. And sir, what is tab 14? What is USX 1005?
- 20 A. This is the -- one of our mailings that we did.
- 21 This is an advertisement to physicians. We sent this
- out to the high prescribers of K-Dur.
- Q. May I direct your attention to tab 15.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. USX 1006, and there appears a color copy and a

1 black and white copy. Can you quickly review this

- 2 exhibit?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And what is that, sir?
- 5 A. This is another -- in the six-part mailing we
- 6 had, in this case we actually offered a little paper
- 7 cutter to physicians who sent information back. It's
- 8 all on the same thing, combining value and quality to
- 9 cut the therapy costs in half for your patients. This
- 10 was targeted towards high prescribers of K-Dur, and
- specifically the letter that accompanied this talked
- 12 about switching your patients from K-Dur to Klor Con.
- 13 Q. Directing your attention to the second page
- 14 with the coins, it says, "Introduce your patients to
- 15 Klor Con 10 Tablets."
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you see that page?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And there are four products listed there. Can
- 20 you tell me what message you're trying to get across to
- 21 the doctors?
- 22 A. Well, in this case, again, we're talking about
- 23 The Economical K, which is our product, and we're
- comparing K-Dur 10, K-Dur 20, and then also the Micro-K
- 25 product in the 10 mEq, and none of these products are

1 A-B rated to one another. What we're showing here is

- 2 the cost savings offered by Klor Con 10.
- 3 Q. And directing your attention to the dosage, the
- 4 footnote says, "Based on average daily dose of 20 mEq."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Does that mean that the dosage of potassium
- 8 between each of these four alternatives is identical?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. In other words, that would be two Klor Con 10s
- 11 against one K-Dur 20?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- Q. And similarly, does that mean two K-Dur 10s
- 14 against the K-Dur 20?
- 15 A. That is correct.
- 16 Q. And sir, directing your attention to Micro-K,
- 17 what's the price difference as of this time based on
- 18 the data used between the Micro-K 10, taking two of
- 19 those, and the K-Dur 20?
- A. About a penny.
- Q. And is that a significant difference between
- two doses, one at 41 cents and one at 42 cents?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. And Klor Con 10 is cheaper than K-Dur 20. Is
- 25 that part of the message?

- 1 A. Yes. The costs are based on the Bergen
- 2 AccuSource program. So, we're careful to note that it
- 3 won't necessarily reflect actual cost. It's a relative
- 4 statement.
- 5 Q. And what's the point in this mailer of working
- 6 directly with doctors in this targeted message?
- 7 A. We are working -- we are targeting the
- 8 physicians that write K-Dur 20, and then -- or in this
- 9 case Micro-K 10, and we are going up against those
- 10 products to suggest that they write for Klor Con 10 in
- 11 place of that because of the quality and the economic
- 12 value.
- Q. May I direct your attention, sir, to tab 16.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. USX 839.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And could you identify what USX 839 is?
- 18 A. This is part of a little training packet, the
- 19 reminders for our representatives.
- 20 Q. And what group within Upsher-Smith prepared
- 21 this packet?
- 22 A. This would be our sales training.
- 23 Q. And who would receive this within -- who did
- 24 receive this within Upsher-Smith?
- 25 A. The sales representatives, both our internal

- 1 representatives as well as our field reps.
- Q. People doing detailing would have this?
- 3 A. Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. And directing your attention to the language,
- 5 "Recommend two Klor Con 10 Tablets instead of one K-Dur
- 6 20 Tablet," what's the point of this reminder for your
- 7 sales force?
- 8 A. It just -- really, it's something to remind
- 9 them when they are in front of the physicians, there
- 10 are those key points, its economical price, recommend
- 11 two for that, and that samples in this case are now
- 12 available.
- 13 Q. And do you see the reference to Scott Levin
- Managed Care Formulary Drug Audit, fall 1999?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And what does that tell you about the prices
- 17 that are reflected in this document?
- 18 A. It would say that these are based on
- 19 co-payments and that the source of the reference here
- 20 is the Scott Levin research that was done to compare
- 21 Klor Con against K-Dur, and we're using a lower co-pay
- 22 for K-Dur.
- 23 Q. And what does it mean where it says, "For
- internal use only, not for use in sales presentation"?
- 25 A. Well, what it means is that this is a reminder

- 1 to use as a sales rep, that when you get in front of a
- 2 physician and you have that, for example, 30 seconds,
- 3 this is points you want to do. This isn't meant to
- 4 leave behind with the doctor or to mail to a doctor.
- Q. What's the date of this document, sir?
- 6 A. This was in August of 2000.
- 7 Q. And at the top it says, "Remind physicians of
- 8 these key points."
- 9 What does that refer to?
- 10 A. The key selling points that you want to make
- 11 sure you get through to the doctor.
- 12 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, we move the admission
- 13 of USX 839.
- MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Which tab is that in the
- 17 binder?
- MR. GIDLEY: That is tab 16, Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 839 is admitted.
- 20 (USX Exhibit Number 839 was admitted into
- 21 evidence.)
- 22 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, may I direct your attention to tab
- 24 17.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And the exhibit there is USX 822.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Would you familiarize yourself with that
- 4 exhibit, please?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And what is USX 822?
- 7 A. This is a compilation of potassium products
- 8 that compete in the potassium market. It was put
- 9 together from someone in my area, marketing, I would
- imagine it was probably Marie VonEnde, she works with
- 11 this type of data.
- 12 Q. And who are some of the competitors, just
- 13 looking at page 1, in potassium chloride?
- 14 A. Key, Ethex, Upsher-Smith, Therex. That was
- 15 page 1.
- 16 Q. And when was this prepared, sir?
- 17 A. Well, let me look for a date. We know that
- 18 it's products for -- in 2000. I'm not seeing the exact
- 19 date when it was produced. I'm not seeing the exact
- 20 date.
- 21 Q. Let me direct your attention to the last page.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. There's a footnote, "The products listed here
- are based on IMS category 60110."
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Do you recognize that five-digit code?
- A. Yes, that's their code for the KCl market.
- Q. And we saw that earlier today, did we not?
- 5 A. We did, yes.
- 6 MR. GIDLEY: All right, Your Honor, we would
- 7 move the admission of USX 822.
- 8 MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- 9 MS. SHORES: No objection, Your Honor.
- 10 JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 822 is admitted.
- 11 (USX Exhibit Number 822 was admitted into
- 12 evidence.)
- 13 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. By the way, before we move on to the next tab,
- sir, does Upsher-Smith at this time, 2000, compete with
- 16 various potassium products that are listed in Exhibit
- 17 USX 822?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now, let's turn your attention, sir, to tab 18.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. This is USX 386.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says on the cover in handwriting,
- "December 2000 In line."
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 O. What does that refer to?
- 3 A. The in-line analyses are done every month by
- 4 the product managers, and they are updates on what's
- 5 going on with their products, internal issues, external
- 6 environmental factors, and so they're meant to keep the
- 7 product plans, if you will, the marketing plans alive.
- 8 They're -- so, they're on a continuum. This would be
- 9 the update that was provided in that month.
- 10 Q. And directing your attention to the page that's
- 11 been Bates numbered 202?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And what is this page?
- 14 A. This is the December update for the Klor Con 8
- 15 and 10 franchise.
- 16 Q. Now, at this point in time, did you have a
- 17 detail force in place at Upsher-Smith, a field service
- 18 force?
- 19 A. By December, we did have. We started one in
- 20 February of 2000.
- Q. May I direct your attention, sir, to 204, page
- 22 204.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. "KV Pharmaceuticals supports the Micro-K
- 25 franchise under Therex, " T H E R E X, "KV's brand

- division, with approximately 100 field sales
- 2 representatives and supports its potassium chloride
- 3 extended-release capsules under its generic division,
- 4 Ethex."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And at this point in time, were Therex and
- 8 Ethex part of KV Pharmaceuticals?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And at this point in time, December 2000, was
- 11 KV Pharmaceuticals promoting potassium through its
- 12 field sales force?
- 13 A. To doctors, yes.
- Q. And they were detailing potassium?
- 15 A. They were, yes.
- 16 Q. Page 206, sir.
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. We've highlighted the bullet at the bottom,
- "Field sales continues to promote Klor Con 10 to high
- 20 decile K-Dur physicians."
- Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And at this point in time, you have not yet
- begun marketing Klor Con M20. Is that correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. And the reference to K-Dur, what is a K-Dur

- 2 physician?
- 3 A. That would be a high prescriber of K-Dur 20 mEq
- 4 or 10.
- 5 Q. What does "high decile" mean?
- 6 A. That means that they are among the highest
- 7 prescribers. They write the highest volume of
- 8 prescriptions for that product.
- 9 Q. Let me direct your attention now to tab 19, and
- 10 what is tab 19, USX 440?
- 11 A. This is called our PPT packet, which is the
- 12 Profit Performance Team at Upsher-Smith Laboratories.
- 13 Q. Okay. And directing your attention to page
- Bates numbered 728, under Key Notes, "1996 was a record
- sales year for Upsher-Smith due to the launch of
- 16 Prevalite on February 23."
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And was that the case with respect to the
- 20 launch of Prevalite?
- 21 A. Yes, it was. We had introduced it in -- on the
- last couple of days in February, and it sold very well.
- 23 Q. And again, what was Prevalite? What did it do?
- A. Prevalite lowers cholesterol. It's called a
- 25 bile acid sequestrant. We were competing with

- 1 Questran.
- 2 Q. And that was the branded drug, Questran?
- 3 A. Yes, and Questran had been off patent for
- 4 almost 20 years, so once again, we were the first to
- 5 come in with a low-cost alternative and offer
- 6 pharmacists and physicians an alternative to a more
- 7 expensive brand.
- 8 Q. May I direct your attention to page -- excuse
- 9 me, tab 20, USX 634. Do you see that?
- 10 A. I do.
- 11 Q. And the first page is a cover page, and you're
- one of the recipients of this package?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And directing your attention now to page 402.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. What are you seeing on the page that's Bates
- 17 labeled USL 15402?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. What is this page?
- 20 A. I'm sorry, this entire packet is part of a
- 21 monthly report that we provide to Ian. It's an OCM
- 22 update, Operational Committee Meeting update, and my
- 23 department provides this page. This is the sales and
- 24 marketing update. In this case, we're referencing the
- 25 month of February.

Q. And directing your attention to the highlighted

- 2 section, bullet one, "Company sales of \$3 million," I'm
- 3 rounding that, "with Prevalite and Klor Con exceeding
- 4 the plan for the month and year-to-date."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Was that your recollection of the sales
- 8 performance of those two product groups as of February
- 9 1997?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And the second bullet, what's the significance
- of, "MOST SUCCESSFUL KLOR CON DEAL IN USL HISTORY," in
- 13 all caps?
- 14 A. Well, we sold over a million dollars in a
- four-week time period with our territory sales group.
- 16 These are the individuals that call on the phone. We
- 17 had never ever done that before.
- Q. And your telephone sales group, how many phone
- 19 calls would a telephone sales representative make on an
- 20 average day?
- 21 A. On average, they make about 20 calls a day.
- Q. And if we assumed about 200 business days a
- year, how many calls might a telephone sales rep make
- in a year at Upsher-Smith?
- 25 A. Thousands of calls.

1 Q. The third bullet says, "Drug Topics survey

- 2 reveals 63% of pharmacies are stocking Prevalite."
- 3 What's the significance of that?
- A. Oh, in Drug Topics, which is a journal for the
- 5 pharmacy trade, they do various updates, and so this
- 6 was a survey apparently that they conducted that
- 7 revealed that 63 percent of the pharmacies were
- 8 stocking Prevalite.
- 9 Q. Is that a good -- is that a good thing, that
- 10 you're --
- 11 A. That's a really good thing.
- 12 Q. -- you're penetrating the pharmacies?
- 13 A. That's right.
- 14 Q. And you're less than a year out from the
- 15 launch. Is that right?
- 16 A. That's right.
- Q. Down at the bottom it says, "Problem Areas:
- 18 Apothecon continues to bid national and large
- 19 independent retail and mail order accounts on their 10
- 20 mEg tablets with aggressive pricing."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And was that a problem in February of 1997 in
- the potassium market?
- 25 A. Yes, it was.

- Q. And then it says, "Corrective Actions: New
- 2 competitive deal strategy implemented Telephone Sales
- 3 to defend and grow market share and neutralize
- 4 Apothecon and Copley."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what's going on in that corrective action
- 8 bullet?
- 9 A. That refers to the deal structures where we
- 10 were looking at potentially offering different ways to
- 11 incentivise independent pharmacies. Cash rebates or
- 12 free goods, for example.
- Q. And what firms were you responding to in the
- 14 potassium market at that time?
- 15 A. We were responding to Schering with K-Dur, we
- 16 were responding to Ethex, A. H. Robbins with Micro-K,
- and then the other -- Ciba-Geigy with Slow K and so
- 18 forth.
- 19 Q. May I direct your attention, sir, to tab 21.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And what is -- what's the first page of USX
- 22 635?
- 23 A. This is the front cover of the OCM committee
- 24 notes again, the monthly reports, and this is for the
- 25 month of May in 1997.

Q. And directing your attention to the next page,

- 2 456.
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Month of April, 1997, Sales and Marketing?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you see that?
- 7 Did your group prepare this document?
- 8 A. Yes, we did.
- 9 Q. So, this particular page of this exhibit would
- 10 be your function, sales and marketing?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. It says in highlights, "Prevalite movement at
- 13 McKesson up 51% during April compared to March movement
- 14 through their DCs."
- 15 Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. What is McKesson?
- 18 A. McKesson is a wholesaler.
- 19 O. And McKesson sells to -- who are its customers?
- 20 A. Primarily independent pharmacists, but they
- 21 would also provide product for regional chains, smaller
- 22 chains.
- Q. Was that gain a significant sales gain?
- A. Yes, 51 percent is very significant.
- Q. Was it significant that it was that large a

- jump at that sized account?
- 2 A. Absolutely. McKesson at that time was number
- 3 one or number two in terms of the wholesalers in the
- 4 United States.
- 5 Q. And it says, "through their DCs."
- What's a DC in this context, sir?
- 7 A. The dist -- DC stands for the distribution
- 8 center, so McKesson is headquartered in San Francisco,
- 9 but they have distribution centers all across the
- 10 United States that basically provide a warehouse
- function for the chains and the independent pharmacies,
- 12 mail order, nursing home, other customers of theirs.
- Q. We were talking earlier about the launch of M20
- and meeting with firms like McKesson. Do you recall
- 15 that testimony?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 O. You talked about a lead time that some
- 18 wholesalers need. Do you recall that?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. You said something about stocking the units.
- Is that a reference to these DCs?
- 22 A. Yes. The headquarters, when you launch a
- 23 product, for example, you need to go out to the
- 24 headquarters, and you need to work with the people
- 25 there who have buying responsibilities to make sure

- 1 that you can get the product stocked, and they decide
- on what quantities. They also have the responsibility
- 3 for deciding which DCs will get what amount.
- 4 And then they need time in order to get this
- 5 into their system, their IS people have to do it and so
- 6 forth. Once that information is on the system, the
- 7 numbers are loaded, they have to send that information
- 8 out to the inventory control managers, who in turn
- 9 analyze that, send back information to tell them what
- 10 the logistical requirements will be, what carriers they
- 11 would prefer, and then they put all of that together,
- 12 and that's why they prefer the 60-day notice, and
- they're ready to cut a PO for you.
- And when you ship from Upsher-Smith, for
- example, in this case, it doesn't go to McKesson
- 16 headquarters. It's going to each distribution center.
- 17 Q. May I direct your attention, sir, to tab 22,
- 18 USX 591.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And could you identify this, please? What is
- 21 USX 591?
- 22 A. If I could just take a moment.
- Q. Please.
- 24 A. (Document review.) This is part of the
- 25 Prevalite marketing plan. It's dated 8/13/1997.

1 Q. And would this have been prepared by someone

- 2 within your group?
- 3 A. Yes, the -- whoever had product management
- 4 responsibility for this.
- 5 Q. It says, "Key Dates," under that, "Commercial
- 6 Launch, March 1, 1996."
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Does that sound accurate?
- 10 A. It was actually February, but yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. It's close, it's approximate?
- 12 A. It's close, yes.
- 13 Q. All right. "Product Rationale:
- 14 "Prevalite packets, introduced March 1, 1996
- 15 have become the second greatest revenue generator in
- 16 USL."
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And was that, in fact, the case as of the time
- of this memo on August 13, 1997?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- Q. And what does the first part of the next
- 23 sentence mean, "1996 Prevalite packet sales totaled \$7
- 24 million"?
- 25 A. That would be the sales revenue in 1996, and

then in 1997, these are the projected sales, \$8.8

- 2 million.
- Q. And you were projecting growth in the Prevalite
- 4 sales at this point in time?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And the date of this document, again, is August
- 7 '97. Is that correct?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. Down below it says, "Prevalite sales throughout
- 10 1997 have been above plan."
- 11 What's the significance of that?
- 12 A. It means that we're selling more than we had
- 13 planned on selling. We started out the year with a
- 14 planned increase in sales, so growth from \$7 million to
- \$8.8 million, and at this point in time, we were
- 16 actually trending ahead of that plan. So, we're
- 17 growing faster than we had anticipated.
- Q. What does it mean where it says, "Customer
- 19 lovalty is high"?
- 20 A. It means that the customers are stocking our
- 21 product, they are loyal to our product.
- Q. Now, was Prevalite a branded generic?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And you were the only firm using the name
- 25 Prevalite. Is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. I see. Let me direct your attention now to tab
- 3 23, please, sir.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. And what is USX 660, once you have had a chance
- 6 to familiarize yourself with it?
- 7 A. Yes, if you can just give me -- (document
- 8 review.) This is an update on the marketing plan.
- 9 This is -- the information included in here would
- 10 provide the basis for the following year's marketing
- 11 plan. It was done on October 1st, 1997 with regard to
- 12 Prevalite.
- Q. What does "Rev No 4," revision number 4 mean?
- 14 Is that the right way to read that?
- 15 A. Revision number 4 means there are at least
- three others of these that are around.
- 17 Q. Well, in fact, directing your attention back to
- the previous exhibit, USX 591.
- 19 A. Yes.
- O. And is that revision number 1?
- 21 A. That's right.
- 22 Q. So -- and some of the language is the same,
- 23 like the first sentence is the same between the two
- 24 documents. Would one -- the revision number 4 work off
- of number 1?

- 1 A. Right. If you think of these documents really
- 2 as templates, then what the product manager is doing is
- 3 putting in key assumptions, key dates, and then as we
- 4 go along, we revise them. So, you're seeing the
- 5 difference between August 13th, 1997 to October 1st,
- 6 now we're on the fourth revision of this plan.
- 7 Q. It says in the yellow highlighted sentence, "In
- 8 a strange move, BMS has transferred the Questran and
- 9 Questran Light brand to Apothecon. Apothecon will also
- 10 have their own generic cholestyramine --" how do you
- 11 say that?
- 12 A. Cholestyramine.
- 13 Q. " -- cholestyramine, which is the same product
- 14 as Questran and Questran light with generic labeling."
- Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And why was that a strange move?
- 18 A. Well, we were the only two products at that
- 19 time, the Questran and -- the Questran Light and then
- 20 the Prevalite, and it's an unusual move. It's not
- 21 uncommon for a company to give to their generic partner
- or their generic arm, if you will, a generic version of
- 23 their brand, and then they continue to market their
- 24 brand and the generic arm markets the generic version.
- 25 With the K-Dur product, K-Dur can be kept as a brand

1 with Key/Schering. Warrick can then sell their generic

- 2 version of that.
- In this case, they actually took the brand and
- 4 gave it to Apothecon and then also developed a generic
- 5 under Apothecon. So, they had both.
- Q. And was this a -- something you were expecting
- 7 or was it a surprise?
- 8 A. No, it's -- as it says, I think it's kind of a
- 9 bizarre move. I didn't -- I still don't understand the
- 10 rationale for it. It's not something we were
- 11 expecting.
- 12 It did create concern for us, because as you
- 13 know, we had lost business to Apothecon in our
- 14 potassium business because of the way they price
- 15 products.
- Q. And on the next page, Current Issues.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. The highlighted first bullet says, "BMS --" is
- 19 that Bristol-Myers Squibb?
- 20 A. It is.
- 21 Q. "-- gives brand to Apothecon. There no longer
- is an innovative -- an innovator brand at a price
- 23 premium."
- Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. So, how do we interpret that first bullet?

- 2 What does that mean?
- 3 A. That refers to what I said before. They had
- 4 virtually taken the brand, given it to their generic
- 5 arm, so now Questran is genericized. It's no longer
- 6 promoted to doctors, it's no longer promoted as a
- 7 brand.
- Q. It says in the next bullet, "Consider entire
- 9 market generic."
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. What does that mean?
- 12 A. Well, it means that it changes now the market
- dramatically, and, in fact, did change Prevalite.
- Q. And it says, "Threats," up above, "BMS
- genericizes brand to Apothecon. Price competition will
- 16 become only selling point if there is no true brand."
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. Is that also a reference of this transfer from
- 20 Squibb to Apothecon?
- 21 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. May I direct your attention to page 263.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Again, this is within USX 660 dated October 1,
- 25 **'**97.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. "Current Issues: Apothecon enters market.
- 3 From our Klor Con experience, we know them to be a deep
- 4 discounter which also provide large rebates on their
- 5 bundles of products."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And what does "deep discounter" mean in this
- 9 context?
- 10 A. Well, it means that they compete on price and
- 11 volume.
- 12 Q. And does it mean that they make small price
- 13 reductions or big ones?
- 14 A. Large price reductions, and they have a large
- product line, so they bundle all of their products
- 16 together. So, if you're the competitor and you come
- in, for example, and you say, well, I have a
- 18 competitive price, your customer might say, well, I get
- 19 a rebate on 100 SKUs from Apothecon, and you only have
- 20 three or four products with me, so...
- 21 Q. Let me direct your attention to tab 24, please,
- 22 USX 837.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And would you describe USX 837, please?
- 25 A. I will. This was a bid offer, if you will, on

- our Klor Con M20, 100 and 1000, and our Klor Con M10,
- 2 100 and 1000, to Merck-Medco, a PBM, which also has a
- 3 mail order, and in this, we were extending contract
- 4 terms which would give Merck-Medco a very favorable
- 5 proposed contract price. The term looks to be about a
- 6 year and a half.
- 7 Q. And were the terms favorable to Merck-Medco in
- 8 your view?
- 9 A. Yes. As a matter of fact, at the time this was
- 10 extended, I think it was more favorable terms.
- 11 Q. What's the approximate date of this document?
- 12 When would this have been created, Mr. Dritsas?
- 13 A. Well, the contract goes from September 1 to
- December 31st, so this would have been literally the
- 15 first week we had the product available.
- 16 Q. So, early September 2001, sir?
- 17 A. September 4th perhaps.
- 18 Q. And what happened? Did Merck-Medco wind up
- 19 accepting this contract and signing this up and buying
- 20 the product?
- 21 A. No, they did not. They have a more favorable
- 22 situation with the K-Dur product.
- Q. And is that the K-Dur 20 product?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And did you yourself have contact with

1 Merck-Medco or was someone handling that within

- 2 marketing?
- 3 A. Mike McBride actually through sales would have
- 4 handled that.
- 5 Q. But did you monitor the activity on that
- 6 account?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And is that because it's a sizeable account?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 MR. GIDLEY: We would move the admission, Your
- Honor, of USX 837.
- MS. BOKAT: No objection.
- MS. SHORES: No objection.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: USX 837 is admitted.
- 15 (USX Exhibit Number 837 was admitted into
- 16 evidence.)
- 17 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, please turn to tab 25. The
- 19 exhibit there is a demonstrative. I simply want you to
- 20 identify it, if you would, please. It's USX 1554 --
- 21 A. I'm sorry, you asked me for tab --
- Q. Twenty-five.
- A. Okay, thank you. Yes?
- Q. And I simply would like you to identify this
- 25 printout of the Qualitest label.

- 1 And if I may approach, Your Honor?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 3 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- Q. Would you compare it to this bottle? And I've
- 5 just handed you a bottle of Qualitest tablets.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And are they the same?
- 8 A. They are the same.
- 9 Q. And the Qualitest label, it says,
- 10 "Manufacturing for" and "Manufacturing by."
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Could you read that to the record, please?
- 13 A. It says, "Manufactured for Qualitest
- 14 Pharmaceuticals, Incorporated, Huntsville, Alabama,
- 35811. Manufactured by Upsher-Smith Laboratories,
- 16 Incorporated, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55447."
- 17 Q. And what's the revision date down below?
- 18 A. Revision 0901.
- 19 Q. And what does that signify?
- 20 A. That would have been September of '01.
- 21 Q. And for the record, this is potassium chloride
- 22 extended release tablets, microencapsulated, 20 mEq.
- 23 Is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. And is this product fully substitutable with

- 1 the K-Dur 20 product?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And in fact, it's identical pharmacologically
- 4 and therapeutically with your own product, the Klor Con
- 5 M20 product. Is that correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Let me direct your attention, if I could,
- 8 now -- you can set that aside.
- 9 A. Oh, thank you.
- 10 Q. May I direct your attention, sir, to tab 26.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And what is tab 26?
- 13 A. This is a page from the Schering-Plough web
- 14 site.
- Q. Earlier today, we talked, you and I, about some
- 16 production problems that you learned about with the
- 17 K-Dur product line. Do you recall that testimony?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Is that what's described by this company press
- 20 release at Schering-Plough?
- 21 A. Yes.
- O. What is GMP?
- 23 A. Good manufacturing practices.
- Q. Is that a term of art? Is that a special term
- in your industry?

- 1 A. I believe it is, yes.
- Q. In fact, it's a regulatory term, isn't it?
- 3 A. It is.
- Q. All right, let's go on to tab 27, if we could.
- 5 Tab 27 is CX 1586, and it's a document that's been used
- 6 earlier in this proceeding. I just want to direct your
- 7 attention to a couple of months here.
- 8 Can I direct your attention to the dots on the
- 9 top line, Mr. Dritsas, to May, June, July and August?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And from May through August, what has happened
- 12 according to this slide to the sales of K-Dur 20?
- 13 A. Well, the estimated prescriptions are going
- down, so the sales are going down. It looks to me to
- 15 start around the July time period, you see quite a dip
- 16 from July to August, then again August to September,
- 17 and then probably that's the most significant decline,
- and then September, October, November, it continues.
- 19 Q. In the month of August 2001, was it possible
- 20 for a doctor in the United States to write a
- 21 prescription for Klor Con M20?
- 22 A. No, it was not possible. We didn't have the
- 23 product on the market.
- Q. And certainly if a doctor did write a
- 25 prescription for Klor Con M20, if you presented it to a

1 pharmacy, it couldn't have been filled in August of

- 2 2001, could it?
- 3 A. It couldn't have been filled and we wouldn't
- 4 have promoted it to a doctor, so no prescriptions would
- 5 have been generated.
- Q. Your sales and shipment of the Klor Con M20
- 7 product occurred in the month of September 2001. Is
- 8 that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. Now, we were talking earlier about A-B
- 11 substitution. Do you recall that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, I see that there is a drop between August
- and September, October and November, on this top line
- that appears to relate to K-Dur 20. Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. What effect would state substitution laws have
- 18 based on your experience with K-Dur 20?
- 19 A. Well, as of September 1, as soon as the
- 20 approval or in this case the launch of a lower cost
- 21 generic equivalent to K-Dur occurred, then certain
- 22 states will mandate at that time to pharmacists that
- 23 for Medicaid patients, you cannot fill the prescription
- 24 with K-Dur. You must use a lower cost alternative.
- 25 Q. What's the effect on competition for the 20 mEq

1 product of the state laws that prohibit the use of

- 2 K-Dur 20?
- 3 A. Well, in essence, they're blocking K-Dur from
- 4 competing with that patient segment.
- 5 Q. Now, in the time period September, October and
- 6 November, have you gotten any feedback from your
- 7 customers about K-Dur 20 supply issues?
- 8 A. Well, as I said earlier, we discovered the
- 9 supply issues before it was ever made public in The
- 10 Pink Sheet or on their web page from talking with our
- 11 customers, the independents in the summer, and then
- 12 around the August time frame, we heard it officially
- from Rite Aid and from Walgreens.
- The effect that it had on our own production
- 15 for our Klor Con 10 and 8 is that we had an increased
- 16 demand for it.
- 17 Q. Is some of the reason for the drop in
- 18 September, October and November in your view due to the
- 19 supply problems that you were hearing about from your
- 20 customers?
- MS. BOKAT: Objection, leading.
- MR. GIDLEY: I can rephrase it, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 24 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 25 Q. What's your view, sir, of the effect of the

1 supply problems in September, October, November on the

- 2 TRX dots that appear in CX 1586?
- A. Well, that's really what I was going to say, is
- 4 that to my knowledge, K-Dur is still not back in full
- 5 supply for many of the customers with whom we provide
- 6 business, and so when I look at this, what it shows me
- 7 is that prior to the launch of any competitor, they
- 8 began to have a steep decline in their sales that could
- 9 not possibly have been related to competition from Klor
- 10 Con. We weren't on the market. And in fact, it -- my
- assumption would be that it has to do with their supply
- 12 problems.
- This decline, then, in addition to a generic
- competitor and in addition to state programs that would
- mandate substitution after September 1st, all of these
- 16 would be factors affecting their sales.
- 17 Q. May I direct your attention now to tab 28, USX
- 18 1556.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And this is a similar chart, but it's done in
- 21 the context of K-Dur 10 and Klor Con M10.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And it has a similar shape as CX 1586, does it
- 24 not?
- 25 A. Yes, it does.

1 Q. And when's the first month that you began to

- 2 sell Klor Con M10?
- 3 A. In September.
- 4 Q. And we can see that up above in the data up at
- 5 the top where it says 41 under September '01. Is that
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- Q. And you've also got sales in October and
- 9 November?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Do you have any understanding from customers as
- 12 to whether K-Dur 10's sales have been affected by
- 13 supply problems?
- 14 A. My understanding is both the K-Dur 20 and the
- 15 K-Dur 10 were affected. I had heard, though I can't
- 16 substantiate this as fact, that they're both made out
- of the same facility.
- Q. And when you're talking about K-Dur 10 having
- 19 supply problems, what time period are you talking
- 20 about?
- 21 A. We noticed it in the summer. Again, we heard
- 22 about it early in late June, but certainly in July and
- 23 August, that's when it became very evident.
- Q. And sir, turning to the next tab, USX 1557 is
- 25 simply the same data done in color without the data

1 box. Is that correct? Take a minute if you need to.

- 2 This is your product versus K-Dur 10.
- 3 A. I'm sorry, so under tab 29, is that where
- 4 I'm --
- 5 Q. That's right, compare tab 29 with tab 28, if
- 6 you would.
- 7 A. To tab 28.
- 8 Q. Right.
- 9 A. Okay, so I'm looking at potassium chloride
- 10 products -- yes, the K-Dur 10 versus our generic,
- 11 sorry.
- 12 Q. And where it says "Generic K-Dur 10," that
- would be your Klor Con M10?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- Q. And that's in USX 1557, right?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. All right, let's just set that aside.
- I may not have asked you this, I just want to
- 19 cover this and make sure I've got a clear record, is
- 20 Prevalite cholestyramine?
- 21 A. It is.
- Q. Did I say that right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. I want to shift gears and talk a little bit
- 25 about Niacor-SR.

- 1 A. Okay.
- Q. When's the first that you can recall learning
- 3 of the development of the Niacor-SR product at
- 4 Upsher-Smith?
- 5 A. Well, I heard about it in the late eighties.
- 6 My first conversation about it was with my boss at that
- 7 time, who was vice president of sales and marketing,
- 8 Kade Kadrie, and he asked me -- we were already in the
- 9 niacin market with an extended release dietary
- 10 supplement, and he asked how would I like to have a
- 11 \$250 million product? How would I like to have a
- 12 product that's -- you know, there's no generic
- equivalent to it, something that we could get a field
- 14 force behind, something that would really change the
- whole dynamics of Upsher-Smith?
- 16 Remember, we were probably around \$20 -- \$20
- 17 million at that time in total company revenues. So, I
- 18 knew enough about niacin to think that this was a
- 19 really exciting opportunity.
- The early response that we had, when we talked
- 21 to doctors, is that if any pharmaceutical company would
- really get behind this drug and promote it and do the
- 23 educational things, that it's the perfect drug for
- 24 treating dyslipidemia. So, I was very excited.
- 25 Q. I understand you're not a doctor. Is that

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. I'm not a doctor.
- 3 Q. What is your understanding of the efficacy of
- 4 Niacor-SR?
- 5 A. Well, it affects all the lipid parameters. It
- 6 lowers LDL, it raises HDL, it affects triglyceride.
- 7 There's no single agent that a physician could
- 8 prescribe at that time that could do all of that
- 9 effectively, and in fact, while niacin isn't the most
- 10 effective agent used for lowering LDL, there still is
- 11 today no better agent used for raising HDL, and HDL is
- 12 now an independent risk factor. So, it's the perfect
- drug for treating dyslipidemias.
- Q. At the time that Upsher-Smith began to work on
- Niacor-SR, had the company had an NDA innovator product
- 16 before?
- 17 A. No. No, that was the other really exciting
- thing about it, because, you know, we were going to put
- 19 an awful lot of resources into this, and it would take
- 20 time, but this was different. We weren't coming up
- 21 with an ANDA generic which we would then brand and we
- 22 would compete against brands and other generics like we
- 23 did in the crowded potassium market. This was an
- opportunity to have our very own proprietary product
- 25 that we would promote to doctors, we would generate

- 1 prescriptions for it, and it's a good drug.
- 2 O. Let's now fast forward to the 1996-1997 time
- 3 frame.
- 4 What were your expectations for the sales in
- 5 the United States of Niacor-SR say in the first six
- 6 months of 1997?
- 7 A. My personal viewpoint on the first six months
- 8 of 1997?
- 9 Q. At that time frame, in the first six, anywhere,
- 10 you know, March of '97 or June of '97, what was your
- 11 expectation for the future potential --
- 12 A. Oh, the future, I'm sorry.
- 0. -- sales of Niacor-SR?
- 14 A. I always thought that the product would do at
- least \$100 million, and I was hopeful that it could do
- 16 \$250 million. Certainly the research that we had done
- 17 earlier indicated, when you look at the epidemiology of
- patients for whom niacin would be appropriate therapy,
- 19 either in monotherapy or in combination with some other
- 20 product, like the statins, there's no reason to believe
- 21 it couldn't be, and Kos was coming out with a product
- around that same time, and certainly based on their
- 23 valuation in the market on a single product, there were
- 24 many who believed that that was realistic.
- I moderated it somewhat at that time to \$100

- 1 million just based on the resources that we had, and I
- 2 felt very strongly that we could do that and then grow
- 3 it from there.
- Q. In the -- let's say, again, let's say we're
- 5 talking about June 1997, at that point in time, for
- 6 Niacor-SR to reach its full potential in the U.S., what
- 7 kind of sales and marketing effort were you thinking or
- 8 did you have in mind?
- 9 A. Well, I was thinking at least 150 salespeople,
- 10 and we would need to do programs that up to this point
- in time we had never done at Upsher-Smith, some of the
- 12 type of educational programs and seminars and other
- things that you do with physicians. So, I was very
- 14 excited about it.
- 15 Q. How did Niacor-SR, say from the vantage point
- of June 1997, how did it fit into your overall product
- 17 line, what you were selling at that time?
- 18 A. Well, it was great. It was cardiovascular, and
- 19 then it provided us with a subset in lipidemiology. We
- 20 already had Prevalite, so that was used for lowering
- 21 cholesterol. We had an immediate release niacin and an
- 22 extended release niacin. So, it was a great way to
- expand in an area where we had already some presence,
- 24 albeit small compared to maybe a major pharmaceutical
- 25 company, and also it would capitalize on the knowledge

1 we had. We know an awful lot and did know an awful lot

- 2 at that time about niacin and its positive effects.
- 3 Q. Were you looking forward to the future of
- 4 developing a field sales force in June of 1997?
- 5 A. Yes, I was.
- Q. And you've testified earlier that you did start
- 7 a field sales force. What product launched that sales
- 8 force?
- 9 A. Pacerone.
- 10 Q. And is that a heart drug, cardiac drug?
- 11 A. Yes, that's for rhythm management.
- 12 Q. What was the cost approximately of the
- Niacor-SR development effort, say in the June 1997 time
- 14 frame, for Upsher-Smith?
- A. As I recall, by that time, I think we had
- 16 invested about \$13 million.
- 17 Q. Had you yourself made any sacrifices in the
- development of Niacor-SR at this time, June of '97?
- 19 A. Yeah, many of us had made sacrifices. This was
- 20 a very large resource burden for us, but we had great
- 21 hopes for its future. We put a tremendous amount of
- our budgeted expenditures that would have gone into
- 23 marketing, that could have gone into Klor Con, that
- 24 might have gone into other areas and other products,
- 25 but instead went towards our expenditure budget for the

- 1 Niacor.
- On a personal level, I gave up a bonus for
- 3 about three or four years in a row, along with other
- 4 executives within the company, because the profits
- 5 weren't there to fund a bonus program, and for me at
- 6 that time, the bonus was about 30 percent of my annual
- 7 wage.
- 8 Q. I want to shift gears a little bit.
- 9 Did Upsher-Smith view K-Dur 20 as a monopoly
- 10 product?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Do you recall -- I'm sorry, are you finished?
- 13 A. We never viewed it as a monopoly product. I
- 14 never spoke to anyone in the industry who ever viewed
- it as a monopoly product. I never talked to a
- 16 physician who ever viewed it as something for which
- 17 there weren't numerous other alternatives.
- 18 Q. How about pharmacists, either chain or
- 19 independent pharmacists, did they ever talk about K-Dur
- 20 20 as a monopoly?
- 21 A. No. In fact, they were -- we were successful
- in getting many of them to substitute two 10s for a 20.
- MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, I object to the answer.
- I believe it's hearsay. I move to strike it.
- 25 MR. GIDLEY: I only offer it, Your Honor, for

- 1 state of mind. This is, after all, one of the key
- 2 competitors of K-Dur 20, and it's relevant to what they
- 3 thought and saw in the market and what market feedback
- 4 they were getting from market participants. And again,
- 5 we don't offer it for the truth of the matter asserted.
- 6 JUDGE CHAPPELL: With that understanding of how
- 7 you're offering it, then I'll overrule the objection.
- 8 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 9 Q. Different topic.
- I want to talk a little bit about M20 and I
- 11 want to talk a little bit about your understanding of
- 12 the lawsuit, and I know you weren't directly involved
- in the lawsuit. Is that correct?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, sir, at some point in time, the '743
- 16 lawsuit, the patent lawsuit, was settled between
- 17 Schering and Upsher-Smith. We talked about that
- 18 earlier.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And in that settlement, there's a provision --
- 21 and I'm not calling for your recall -- but there's a
- 22 provision that would ultimately permit your company to
- 23 market the M20 drug in September of 2001. Did you have
- that understanding?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Now, sir, was there any other product, other

- 2 than the Klor Con M20 product, that was in your
- 3 pipeline that you thought about using to get around the
- 4 '743 patent after the settlement of the litigation?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. I want to talk to you a little bit about
- 7 Upsher-Smith and consumer benefit.
- 8 What effect has Upsher-Smith had on consumers
- 9 of potassium?
- 10 A. Well, I -- from the very beginning, I think
- we've been the company that's been willing to put
- 12 resources behind promoting a low-cost alternative in an
- area of therapy where patients are potentially older,
- 14 they're on fixed incomes, they're on a -- numerous
- other prescription products, about six or seven, and
- 16 they're going to take it for the rest of their lives.
- 17 We came out with Klor Con powder, we were the
- 18 first company to really fight against KLor, and that
- 19 was a more expensive product. The effervescent, Klor
- 20 Con 8 and 10 were the first products that were priced
- 21 as a low-cost alternative, and by the way, those were
- 22 B-X rated products. We could have priced them as
- 23 brands. We could have gone out to doctors. We could
- 24 have generated prescriptions for them. We chose not
- 25 to. We chose to continue to provide that.

- 1 And even today, when I go in the field with
- 2 reps, we get to see doctors who typically will not
- 3 allow pharmaceutical reps to come in just based on the
- 4 fact that we can talk to them and say, now, wait a
- 5 minute, we have low-cost alternatives for prescriptions
- 6 that you're writing every day for maintenance therapy
- 7 for patients like K-Dur, like lipid-lowering agents,
- 8 and there are many physicians, most of which I will say
- 9 are receptive to that, and they'll let us talk about
- 10 it. So, that's always been our position.
- 11 Q. New topic.
- 12 In all the time that you have been the head of
- sales and marketing for Upsher-Smith, have you ever
- sought to grow Schering-Plough's sales at the expense
- of your own company's sales?
- 16 A. Absolutely not. I compete with Schering.
- 17 Q. Have you ever eased up on Schering-Plough in
- 18 the potassium market?
- 19 A. No. In fact, every year, as we grew, as I had
- 20 more resources available, we deployed more and better
- 21 ways to compete in that market, and I think our
- 22 Economical K really was one of the best things that we
- 23 did in order to shift prescriptions away and also
- 24 convince pharmacists to make a therapeutic
- 25 substitution.

Q. Did you ease up in any way on Schering-Plough

- 2 after June 1997 in the potassium market?
- A. Absolutely not. In fact, we put more resources
- 4 towards going after that market.
- 5 Q. Sir, the allegation in the complaint is that
- 6 your company accepted a payment not to compete and to
- 7 delay entry and the M20 product introduction until
- 8 September 1, 2001. Sir, do you believe that your
- 9 company was paid to stay off the market in the
- 10 marketing of M20?
- 11 A. Absolutely not.
- MR. GIDLEY: Your witness.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Cross?
- MS. BOKAT: Yes, please, Your Honor.
- 15 CROSS EXAMINATION
- BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Dritsas.
- 18 A. Good afternoon.
- 19 Q. You talked with Mr. Gidley earlier today about
- 20 the marketing plans that your department prepared. You
- 21 did that on an annual basis, did you not?
- 22 A. They were officially handed in on an annual
- 23 basis, but as we talked about in those revisions,
- sometimes they were done continuously.
- Q. But they were done at least annually, right?

- 1 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q. The marketing plan was a blueprint for strategy
- 3 and tactics for your department, wasn't it?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And it was also used to talk about the budget
- 6 your department would have for the upcoming year,
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. There would be expenditures that would be
- 9 included in that as well, yes.
- 10 Q. And you personally reviewed the marketing
- 11 plans, correct?
- 12 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And you sent the marketing plans on to Mr.
- 14 Troup, the president of the company?
- 15 A. Yes, I did, but the final version, probably not
- 16 the revisions.
- 17 O. But he saw the final version?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Ms. Hertzman, would you pull up CX 19, please.
- Your Honor, may I approach the witness, please?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may. I don't need it
- if it's going to be displayed.
- MS. BOKAT: It looks like we're --
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I especially don't need that,
- 25 whatever that is. Is that an exhibit?

- 1 MS. BOKAT: I beg your pardon?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Is that an exhibit?
- 3 MS. BOKAT: It's the first page of an exhibit.
- 4 It's a multipage exhibit.
- 5 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, thank you.
- 6 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 7 Q. Mr. Dritsas, I've handed you CX 19.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. That's one of your department's marketing
- 10 plans, is it not?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. In fact, it's the 1997 marketing plan.
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. If we look at the page that's Bates numbered
- 15 15228.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Toward the top of the page, and I don't know
- 18 whether it's easier for you to use the paper or the
- 19 screen --
- 20 A. I think I'll use the paper, thank you.
- Q. That's your copy.
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. Looking at the second sentence, it reads, "This
- 24 market has been relatively flat, trending toward the 20
- 25 mEg slow-release tablet."

1 That's a reference to K-Dur 20, is it not?

- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. So, the market had been moving away from the
- 4 other potassium chloride supplements toward K-Dur 20,
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You mentioned earlier in the day when talking
- 8 with Mr. Gidley that I believe it was today, the
- 9 typical patient is on 40 mEqs of potassium chloride a
- 10 day. Back in this time period of late 1996, early
- 11 1997, weren't patients typically on 20 mEqs a day?
- 12 A. That was our thought, that again, there was
- probably a range, but that it was fair to say at that
- 14 time, for whatever reasons, they were -- they were
- typically dosed 20 milliequivalents a day.
- 16 Q. So, at that time, a patient on a typical dosage
- 17 could get the potassium chloride they needed from one
- 18 K-Dur 20 tablet, correct?
- 19 A. That's right. That's assuming they could
- 20 swallow it, and that's the only caveat to that. It's a
- 21 large tablet.
- Q. At that time, Schering was marketing K-Dur 20
- as an innovative product, was it not?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And Schering was using a marketing message of

- dosing flexibility?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And Schering was also using a marketing message
- 4 of patient compliance?
- 5 A. That was their marketing message, yes. I
- 6 wasn't aware of any studies or anything, but certainly
- 7 from a marketing perspective, that was their -- what I
- 8 would call their pitch.
- 9 Q. And the market was moving toward the K-Dur 20.
- 10 A. Yes. As a matter of fact, at the expense of
- 11 the 8s and 10s.
- Q. So, at that time, K-Dur 20 was increasing in
- both dollar and unit sales, was it not?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Currently, now that you have your Klor Con M20
- 16 product on the market, that's the generic of K-Dur 20,
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You market your Klor Con M20 as more convenient
- than potassium chloride powders, do you not?
- 21 A. Yes, that's our pitch.
- Q. And is another part of your pitch that your
- 23 Klor Con M20 is more convenient than the effervescent
- 24 tablets?
- 25 A. I don't know if we make a specific comparison

1 to it, but sure, we do in general promote it as a

- 2 convenient product.
- 3 Q. In the time period from 1996 through 2001, the
- 4 price of potassium chloride powders and effervescents
- 5 was flat, was it not?
- 6 A. I believe so.
- 7 Q. During that time period, the prices of the 8
- 8 and 10 tablets were eroding, were they not?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. So, the 8 and 10 prices were going down.
- 11 A. Yes, there was multiple generic entries and a
- 12 lot of pricing pressures.
- Q. But for K-Dur 20, their price was holding
- steady in that time period, was it not?
- 15 A. Well, we always thought they were priced
- 16 competitively, and one of the notes that we made later
- on was that they were beginning to compete within
- 18 certain segments to hold onto business as a result of
- 19 what we felt was the competitive pressures in the
- 20 generic market.
- MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I approach the
- 22 witness, please?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- MS. BOKAT: That's CX 1100, which I believe Ms.
- 25 Hertzman has managed to pull up on the computer.

1 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, thank you, I don't need

- 2 it.
- 3 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, looking at CX 1100, that's another
- 5 marketing plan for your department, is it not?
- 6 A. It looks like from the cover page that these
- 7 are all of our marketing plans.
- Q. And in fact, I think you talked about this
- 9 marketing plan this morning with your counsel under his
- 10 exhibit number.
- 11 A. I think I did, yes.
- 12 Q. Would you turn, please, to the page within
- 13 CX 1100 that has the Bates number 16085.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And I'm going to be asking you a question about
- 16 the second paragraph.
- 17 A. Okay, if I could just take a minute here.
- 18 Q. By all means.
- 19 A. (Document review.) Okay.
- Q. Okay. There's a sentence in that paragraph, I
- 21 believe it's the second to last sentence, which reads,
- "The 20 mEg segment is holding an ASP of 0.34/tablet
- verses (sic) the dramatically eroding ASP in the 8 and
- 24 10 mEq markets."
- I think you said earlier in the day that ASP is

- 1 average sales price?
- 2 A. Average selling price, yes.
- 3 Q. So, according to this sentence, for the 20 mEq,
- 4 that ASP was holding at 34 cents a tablet, right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. Whereas the ASP for the 8 and 10 mEq tablets
- 7 was dramatically eroding, correct?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. You were talking earlier about pharmacists at
- 10 the retail pharmacy level dispensing potassium
- 11 chlorides. If the pharmacist receives a prescription
- 12 written for a 20 mEq tablet, without calling the
- physician, he can't simply substitute an 8 or 10
- 14 tablet, can he?
- 15 A. That's right, unless -- no, that's right.
- 16 Q. So, the pharmacist would first have to call the
- 17 doctor's office and get in touch with a doctor or a
- nurse to get an authorization, correct?
- 19 A. That is correct. The exception to that might
- 20 be the example I used earlier, we discovered when there
- 21 was --
- Q. Well, the answer is that's correct, right?
- 23 A. Yes, unless it's a chain.
- 24 Q. So, the --
- 25 A. That's the answer, unless it was a chain.

- 1 Q. So, a chain pharmacist wouldn't have to call
- 2 the doctor? An independent does but not a chain
- 3 pharmacist?
- A. My basis for that is, for example, when K-Dur
- 5 wasn't available, Walgreens put into their system,
- 6 "Simply use two 10s." So, my assumption is under
- 7 extenuating circumstances like that, they were able to
- 8 write it, because there simply was no other product
- 9 there, but the potassium needs of the patient had to be
- 10 met.
- 11 Q. So, that was a particular circumstance.
- 12 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. But in the normal course of events, if a
- 14 pharmacist receives a prescription written for K-Dur
- 15 20, he can't substitute an 8 or a 10 tablet without
- 16 contacting the physician or someone in the physician's
- 17 office.
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. If a prescription is written for a 20 mEq
- 20 tablet, a pharmacist can't substitute a potassium
- 21 chloride powder without physician authorization, can
- 22 he?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. Is the same true of a potassium chloride
- 25 effervescent tablet? In other words, if the pharmacist

- 1 gets a prescription written for K-Dur 20, he can't
- 2 substitute an effervescent tablet of potassium chloride
- 3 without a physician's authorization.
- A. You'd have to call the doctor's office, yes,
- 5 ma'am.
- Q. And if the pharmacist, again, has this
- 7 prescription for K-Dur 20, he can't substitute a liquid
- 8 form of potassium chloride for the K-Dur 20 without
- 9 physician authorization, correct?
- 10 A. As long as the prescription's written for K-Dur
- and not open, you're right.
- 12 Q. So, this step of getting the physician's
- authorization is going to take some pharmacist time,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And that physician -- pharmacist's time has
- 17 value, correct?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. So, it's also going to take the time of the
- 20 physician or the person in the physician's office who
- 21 receives the contact from the pharmacist.
- 22 A. Right. They're talking to each other during
- 23 the day, and they'd have to pick up and respond, and
- 24 the pharmacist would need to call, yes.
- 25 Q. So, that would take additional time for someone

- 1 in the physician's office to deal with this
- 2 authorization.
- 3 A. Yes, although they do have people that do that
- 4 all day long.
- 5 Q. In planning for the marketing of your Klor Con
- 6 M20, Upsher was planning to take sales directly from
- 7 Schering's K-Dur 20, was it not?
- 8 A. In planning our -- I'm sorry, will you repeat
- 9 the question?
- 10 Q. Sure.
- 11 When Upsher was planning the marketing of its
- 12 Klor Con M20 --
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. -- the generic of Schering's K-Dur --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- you were planning that your generic would
- take sales directly from K-Dur 20, were you not?
- 18 A. Yes, among other potassiums, but yes.
- 19 Q. Again, in planning the marketing of your Klor
- 20 Con M20, Upsher anticipated that there would be rapid
- 21 generic penetration, did it not?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Was Upsher assuming for planning purposes that
- your product would be priced at about 50 percent of
- 25 K-Dur 20's price?

- 1 A. Well, depending on what pricing reference, I
- 2 think if we were looking at the AWP, that was the price
- 3 point reference we used, about 50 percent.
- Q. If we looked -- well, let me back up.
- 5 Does WAC or wholesale acquisition cost have a
- 6 meaning to you?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. If we looked instead of at AWP at WAC, what was
- 9 Upsher planning with respect to its WAC price of your
- 10 generic in comparison to the K-Dur 20 price?
- 11 A. So, just so I understand the question, you're
- not asking what people would pay; you're just asking me
- 13 what the price comparison that we would advertise, for
- 14 example.
- 15 Q. Right.
- 16 A. Okay, it's a good question. On the WAC, I
- 17 thought when we came out, we were going to price it
- about 30 to 40 percent off WAC, again with the caveat
- 19 that I don't know what they're actually paying for
- 20 K-Dur, and WAC doesn't represent what they actually pay
- 21 for our product either, and it -- certainly every
- 22 segment pays -- has different arrangements with K-Dur
- 23 and Upsher-Smith. So, as a reference point, I thought
- 24 it was about 30 or 40 percent off WAC when we first
- 25 came out.

- 1 Q. And that was in September of 2001?
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q. How about when you were planning ahead for the
- 4 marketing of your Klor Con M20, what were you
- 5 anticipating your WAC would be in relation to K-Dur 20?
- A. Well, we put in a number of different
- 7 scenarios. We could have put -- in fact, I think we
- 8 did put, for example, a 50 percent price. As I
- 9 mentioned earlier today, I think, when I came back and
- 10 discovered some of the arrangements that Schering had
- 11 that we just didn't realize with regard to some of
- 12 their customers, we thought, well, we'll have to
- rethink our pricing assumptions, we'll have to rethink
- our share assumptions.
- So, there would have been a number of different
- 16 scenarios ranging from, you know, gee, we'll offer this
- 17 as a low-cost alternative, maybe 20 percent off theirs,
- to perhaps 50 percent off and be very aggressive and
- 19 assertive. We were driving to change prescriptions,
- and so we wanted to come on strong.
- 21 Q. When you had to rethink your market share and
- 22 pricing, were you thinking about maybe discounting even
- 23 more than 50 percent off of WAC of K-Dur 20?
- A. Well, no, and let me explain the reason why.
- 25 We don't have the resources they do, and, for example,

- 1 Pacificare today is a managed care plan that I think I
- 2 mentioned that uses K-Dur. There's no way I can
- 3 compete. There's no amount of discount that I could
- 4 offer that would get them to start using Klor Con
- 5 instead of K-Dur, because we just don't have the
- 6 breadth of products, we just don't have those -- when I
- 7 say we had to go back and look at it, we had to start
- 8 saying, is this realistic?
- And part of that answer might be, do we really
- need to discount it that much? If it's not going to
- 11 get us the business, if we can't get into that share,
- 12 why would we discount it that much? Perhaps we can do
- less of a discount, but we can redirect our sales
- 14 objectives.
- Q. Okay. So, in planning, you were thinking about
- 16 a discount of 20 to 50 percent compared to the WAC of
- 17 K-Dur 20, right?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. But you actually wound up selling at a WAC that
- was 35 to 45 percent below K-Dur 20?
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am, as I recall, that was it.
- Q. Since 1996, the 20 milliequivalent tablet
- 23 segment has grown, has it not?
- A. Yes, the -- it's grown at the expense of the 8
- 25 and 10.

- 1 Q. So, that's a larger -- well, let me start
- 2 again.
- In 1996, it was a smaller market than, say, in
- 4 1999.
- 5 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Was it in approximately January 1999 that you
- 7 personally learned that Upsher would have the 180-day
- 8 exclusivity for Klor Con M20?
- 9 A. That was about the time, yes.
- 10 Q. So, after January 1999, knowing that you would
- 11 have the exclusivity, your forecasts of Upsher's market
- 12 share for the 20 mEg segment increased, did they not?
- 13 A. Well, again, I -- they went up, they went down,
- 14 they increased during that time period. After I came
- back from our customers, they went from 50 percent
- 16 share down to 35 percent share. That was almost --
- 17 well, that was a year -- wasn't it, a year and a half
- before we actually went to market. So, there would
- 19 have been -- I didn't have one share assumption, in
- other words. It went up and it went down.
- Q. But at least after you learned of the 180 days,
- you weren't forecasting that in that initial six months
- you'd have competition from other generics other than,
- 24 perhaps, Warrick.
- 25 A. Warrick and our own private label, so we

- 1 figured there would be four in the market.
- MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I approach the
- 3 witness, please?
- 4 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 5 MS. BOKAT: I'm going to hand you CX 21, which
- 6 we have up on the computer.
- 7 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 8 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 9 Q. Mr. Dritsas, CX 21 is a series of marketing
- 10 two-pagers. Is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. Were these prepared in your department?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Would you turn, please, to the page that's
- 15 numbered 12832.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. This was prepared by Ms. Dolan, was it not?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And it appears to be dated July 1997. Is that
- 20 right?
- 21 A. Oh, yes.
- Q. You don't have any reason to think that that
- 23 date's inaccurate.
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Ms. Dolan shows a series of launch dates on

- 1 this page.
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. One of them is for commercial launch, and that
- 4 shows -- this is -- I'm sorry, let me back up.
- 5 She's talking on this page about your Klor Con
- 6 M20, correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- Q. And she has a planned commercial launch date
- 9 there of October 1st, 1997, right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And then under the column Revised, it says,
- "TBD," to be determined?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Was that going to have to be revised because of
- the agreement with Schering-Plough?
- 16 A. Well, actually, it was going to have to be
- 17 revised because we didn't have enough information to
- 18 really have an accurate launch date. I don't think in
- 19 July of 1997, for example, we had an approval on the
- 20 product. So, while you can try and count on when the
- 21 FDA will give you an approval and you can do everything
- you can, you really can't count on -- we have no
- 23 control over that.
- Q. But you had tentative approval as of that date,
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q. Looking under the heading Product Rationale,
- 3 still on that same page.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. There's a sentence that reads, "Klor Con M20
- 6 tablets are potassium chloride extended-release tablets
- 7 that are therapeutically and fully substitutable for
- 8 K-Dur 20."
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Was Ms. Dolan in essence saying that Klor Con
- 11 M20 would be A-B rated to K-Dur 20?
- 12 A. That was our assumption.
- 13 Q. And that turned out to be accurate, right?
- 14 A. Absolutely.
- MS. BOKAT: May I approach the witness, Your
- 16 Honor?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 18 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 19 Q. Mr. Dritsas, I hand you CX 255.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Which looks like it's up on the computer
- 22 monitor.
- Do you feel like you're being inundated with
- 24 paper? Would you like me to move --
- 25 A. If you wouldn't mind, thank you.

1 MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, could I put this on the

- 2 end of the Bench in case we need to revert to some of
- 3 these exhibits if I promise to remove them by the end
- 4 of the day?
- 5 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may. It looks like
- 6 there's a spare binder there. He may need that on
- 7 redirect, though.
- MS. BOKAT: Right, and that's not mine, so I
- 9 won't touch that one.
- 10 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 11 Q. Mr. Dritsas, can you tell me what CX 255 is,
- 12 please?
- 13 A. Can I look at it for just a moment?
- 14 Q. By all means.
- 15 A. (Document review.) This is a compilation of
- 16 updates on the Klor Con M project. So, this would come
- 17 from the project team.
- 18 Q. To whom did the project team distribute these
- 19 updates?
- 20 A. Well, amongst themselves and through the
- 21 managers, they would have received them all the time.
- I believe at least quarterly, though, the upper
- 23 management group would also receive them, and we would
- actually have a meeting where we would go through them.
- Q. Were you part of that upper management team

- that received these quarterly?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Looking at the first page of CX 255, which is
- 4 numbered 02611, that shows March 6th, 1997 as the date
- of tentative approval of Klor Con M20 from the FDA. Is
- 6 that right?
- 7 A. It just takes me a while to find these. Okay,
- 8 tell me again, please.
- 9 Q. Okay, I think this is about the third or fourth
- 10 date from the bottom.
- 11 A. Okay.
- 12 Q. Does that show March 6th, 1997 as the date of
- 13 FDA tentative approval for Klor Con M20?
- 14 A. March 6th did you say?
- 15 Q. Yes, sir.
- 16 A. Yes. Actually, not tentative approval. It
- says, "approvable status." I don't know if that's
- 18 tentative or approval.
- 19 Q. This shows a target market introduction of
- 20 August 1997, does it not?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. That's based on the assumption of a successful
- jury trial starting in July of 1997?
- A. Assumes a successful jury trial, yes. We -- my
- 25 understanding is we didn't go to a jury trial, but

- 1 that's the assumption that's in here.
- 2 Q. The patent litigation was scheduled for trial
- 3 on June 17th or 18th of 1997, wasn't it?
- A. Yes. I just didn't know it was going to be in
- 5 front of a jury or a judge. I -- these -- apparently
- 6 these people thought it would be a jury.
- 7 Q. So, they were assuming that if it went to trial
- 8 and it was successful for Upsher, they would launch in
- 9 August of 1997.
- 10 A. Well, what they're saying in here, just a
- 11 minute, please, target market introduction -- all of
- these, and I don't know if this is a good example, if
- you see it in other things, but typically what you'll
- 14 see here is a template. It shows you your plan, it
- shows you your target, and then it shows you your
- 16 actual.
- 17 So, for example, in the template, they might
- say we assume that the FDA will approve it at this
- 19 time. They may or may not. They assume that the
- 20 jury's in. The dates in here may change, but the
- 21 template is there, and the team will continue to put in
- dates and will continue to work so that we don't just
- 23 stop.
- Q. Now, I think maybe we do have an example if we
- look at the page numbered 02617.

- 1 A. Okay, let me find that. Yes.
- Q. This was prepared on November 12th, 1996.
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. So, it's earlier than the page -- first page we
- 5 looked at, which was March 12th, 1997.
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And here, if we look at the second date from
- 8 the bottom, we see a target market introduction for
- 9 Klor Con M20 of April 1st, 1997, right?
- 10 A. Right. So, in between this meeting and the
- following one, the date had moved from 4/1/97 to 8/97
- 12 and so on. It might just continue to slide out.
- Q. So, as of November 12th, 1996, there was a
- target date of April 1st, 1997, assuming summary
- judgment by October of '96, right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And also assuming a rapid review.
- 18 A. I'm sorry?
- 19 Q. Also assuming a rapid review on appeal.
- 20 A. Yes, that's what it says, a rapid review.
- 21 The people who write this, by the way, are --
- and are on the teams are not the top management people.
- These are our team members. So, if you do see
- inconsistencies, for example, if it says it was going
- 25 to be a jury but it really wasn't, if it says the

- 1 summary judgment was going to be very quick, they're
- 2 not the upper management people who potentially would
- 3 have had more knowledge on that, and in our company,
- 4 that knowledge isn't always passed along unless it's
- 5 deemed necessary for something. So, if you see those
- 6 inconsistencies, just keep in mind that the people who
- 7 are doing this didn't always have access to that
- 8 information.
- 9 Q. But the people doing this were the members of
- 10 the project team responsible for the launch of the
- 11 product.
- 12 A. These people were not part of the launch team,
- no, ma'am. This is the development team. Two very
- 14 different teams.
- Q. Do you recall, sir, back in the spring of 1997
- 16 how many Klor Con M20 tablets Upsher figured they would
- 17 need for the launch?
- 18 A. I don't remember at all. I'm sorry.
- 19 MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I approach the
- witness, please?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes.
- MS. BOKAT: Mr. Dritsas, I show you an exhibit
- 23 that has been numbered CX 256, which I think we have on
- the computer.
- 25 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, we do, thank you.

- 1 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, these are notes from a meeting on
- 3 Klor Con M20, correct?
- 4 A. Apparently, yes.
- 5 Q. And that meeting was held on April 29th, 1997?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. If you look at the second page numbered 06737.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. The fourth point down in the second sentence
- reads, "Ball park launch quantities equal 28.2 million
- 11 tablets."
- Does that refresh your recollection on what
- 13 Upsher was planning in terms of the number of tablets
- it would need for launch?
- 15 A. I'm afraid it doesn't. First of all, I just
- 16 want to point out, I've never seen this. This isn't
- 17 something that would come to me. And again, for
- 18 example, it says there will be no additional sales
- 19 expenditures prior to the launch. I'm not exactly sure
- 20 how we could launch a product without putting
- 21 expenditures towards that.
- It has in here a ballpark estimate, but the
- 23 launch team is responsible for those estimates. This
- is a development team. So, it's out of context to me.
- 25 I don't know if they're referring to ballpark launch

- 1 quantities for regulatory purposes, if there's some
- 2 amount that they need to do, but a launch quantity
- 3 would clearly come from a launch team. That's
- 4 consistent with every product launch we do. It goes
- from a development team to a launch team.
- Q. So, this doesn't refresh your recollection?
- 7 A. This has no meaning to me.
- 8 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Ms. Bokat, it's after 4:00.
- 9 Let me know when you are at a good breaking point.
- 10 MS. BOKAT: This is a fine breaking point, Your
- Honor.
- 12 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Let's take our afternoon
- 13 recess. I have to handle a procedural matter. So, we
- 14 will take a recess and return at 4:20.
- 15 (A brief recess was taken.)
- 16 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Ms. Bokat, you may proceed.
- MS. BOKAT: Thank you.
- May I approach the witness, Your Honor? May I
- 19 approach the witness, please?
- 20 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may. I'm sorry, I
- 21 couldn't hear you over the creaking door.
- MS. BOKAT: The acoustics in this room are
- 23 terrible.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Well, the sound from the door
- 25 carries very well.

1 MS. BOKAT: And earlier in the day, Mr. Gidley

- 2 was sitting at the back, and I could hear what he was
- 3 saying up here.
- 4 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Oh, did you tell him that?
- 5 MS. BOKAT: I did, I was honest.
- 6 MR. CURRAN: After about 18 minutes.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: I was going to say, maybe Mr.
- 8 Curran was throwing his voice.
- 9 MS. BOKAT: I believe we have CX 265 on the
- 10 computer.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Good thing it's not a criminal
- 12 trial, depending on what you heard Mr. Gidley say, of
- 13 course.
- 14 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, CX 265, is that another of the
- 16 monthly updates from the project team?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. That shows a targeted market introduction date
- 19 for Klor Con M20 of September to November 1997, does it
- 20 not?
- 21 A. Yes. Now they're providing a range. And in
- here, I don't know that they have any legal knowledge
- on how long it takes to do an appeal, but they've put
- 24 in -- they figure within two to four months, the appeal
- 25 will be done.

1 Q. So, once the appeal was done, Upsher would

- 2 launch Klor Con M20?
- 3 A. Well, predicating -- yes, assuming that we got
- 4 the approval, of course, and then assuming that we were
- 5 able to get all the equipment and everything else we
- 6 needed to gear up for it and we got our sales and
- 7 marketing launch team, then we would launch, but those
- 8 things would have to happen in order for us to launch.
- 9 Q. I'm going to ask you to think back to spring of
- 10 1997. At that time, Upsher expected that once you
- 11 launched your generic of K-Dur 20, Warrick would also
- 12 bring a generic of K-Dur 20 to market, didn't you?
- 13 A. Yes, that was one of the scenarios.
- 14 MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I approach the
- witness, please?
- 16 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may. And it is now
- 17 79 degrees in here. If anyone wants to open the
- 18 windows, feel free.
- 19 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, I hand you CX 24.
- 21 A. (Document review.) Yes.
- 22 Q. Your marketing department prepares forecasts of
- products before they're launched, does it not?
- 24 A. Yes, our marketing department does.
- 25 Q. Looking at the second page of CX 24, which is

- 1 numbered 07397.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Is this one such forecast?
- A. Ah, yes, ma'am, this is -- this appears to be
- 5 Klor Con M20 market -- this would be one of the models,
- 6 yes.
- 7 O. In this model --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- your department was using the assumption
- 10 that Upsher's generic would have an average market
- share of 30 percent from September to December of 2001,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. It probably is, let me just find it.
- Q. I'm looking still at the second page --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- the second bullet point under Assumptions.
- 17 A. Ah, yes, "USL average 30% share," yep. It's --
- 18 I'm sorry, yes.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Mr. Curran, while she's taking
- 20 a break looking for a document, I don't mean to
- 21 interrupt you, but before I forget, we had some witness
- 22 who's available tomorrow and he needs to finish
- 23 tomorrow. Is that right?
- MR. CURRAN: Ideally, yes, Your Honor.
- 25 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, and is this witness

- 1 taking longer than you anticipated?
- 2 MR. CURRAN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 3 JUDGE CHAPPELL: I thought so. So, will we
- 4 take that witness first in the morning?
- 5 MR. CURRAN: Well, I'm afraid that might be
- 6 unfair to complaint counsel. We will confer at the
- 7 conclusion of today and address scheduling issues.
- 8 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, thank you, because I --
- 9 if it happens, it happens, but I'd prefer not to be in
- 10 a position where we have to go into the night tomorrow
- 11 night.
- MR. CURRAN: Agreed.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, thank you.
- MR. CURRAN: Thank you.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Sorry, Ms. Bokat.
- MS. BOKAT: No problem, Your Honor.
- 17 May I approach the witness?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 19 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, I hand you CX 138.
- 21 A. (Document review.) Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Is CX 138 another forecast prepared by your
- 23 department?
- 24 A. Yes, these -- this is another model.
- 25 Q. If we look at the first page of CX 138 --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- there's a table on the left.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. That's a forecast done in units, correct?
- 5 A. Yes, "Klor Con M20, September Launch With
- 6 Private Label and Warrick (Units)."
- 7 Q. What time period is covered by that forecast?
- 8 A. Well, let me look. September -- okay, June
- 9 through December.
- 10 Q. I'm sorry?
- 11 A. It says K-Dur -- oh, I'm sorry, it's without
- 12 entry from June to December. I -- it's not clear to me
- what time period this is. It has the 20 mEq market,
- 14 then a generic entry on 9/1. The K-Dur tablets without
- a generic entry during June through December, so that
- 16 would assume that K-Dur in this case does not give
- 17 their product to Warrick, that would be an assumption.
- 18 The next line says K-Dur 20 tablets for
- 19 September through December, and that is a scenario
- 20 where they do give it to Warrick from September through
- December. Then the M20 tablet from September through
- December, which would include a pipeline. And it also
- 23 includes us having our private label partner, who as we
- 24 know is Qualitest, through September through December.
- 25 So, you would have a scenario where there are

- 1 at least three, K-Dur, Upsher-Smith as well as Warrick,
- 2 and without Warrick, or K-Dur, Upsher-Smith and
- 3 Qualitest without Warrick. And then you have another
- 4 scenario where all four are there.
- 5 Q. This line that says, "K-Dur 20 tabs without
- 6 generic entry for June-December," was that based on the
- 7 assumption that there would be no generic entry in that
- 8 six-month time period?
- 9 A. Well, what we're doing in here is trying to
- 10 look at all the possible scenarios. So, the one you're
- 11 referring to would say, well, what if they don't give
- 12 it to Warrick? The others would say, well, what if
- 13 they do? Because we -- we have to run out the models
- 14 with each scenario just in case.
- Q. So, if it's not given to Warrick, then for
- 16 September to December, you were forecasting that K-Dur
- would have a 35 percent market share?
- A. You know, ma'am, it's not clear from this,
- 19 because it says, "K-Dur tablets," but then below it
- there's a market share for Warrick that says 15
- 21 percent. So, the graph itself is somewhat confusing to
- 22 me.
- MR. GIDLEY: Excuse me, Your Honor, Ms. Bokat.
- I believe this document is an in camera document due to
- 25 some figures that appear on it. If you want to use it

1 further, I'd like to go in camera, and it's -- I'm not

- 2 the expert on this document, but my log here says that
- 3 it is in camera, and I've conferred with my client
- 4 about it.
- 5 MS. BOKAT: I apologize.
- 6 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, and you intend to
- 7 question on this document?
- 8 MS. BOKAT: Yes, I do.
- 9 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, I will have to ask the
- 10 public to leave the courtroom for an in camera session,
- and you will be notified when we go back into public
- 12 session. Thank you. You need to pull that off the
- 13 screen until the courtroom's clear. Thank you.
- 14 (The in camera testimony continued in Volume
- 20, Part 2, Pages 4918 through 4924, then resumed as
- 16 follows.)
- BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, the next document I'm going to ask
- 19 you about is actually an Upsher exhibit. It was in tab
- 20 10 of your first binder, which might be easier for you
- 21 to read than the screen.
- 22 A. Yeah, thank you, I think it would be.
- 23 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Does he have the right volume
- there? Is it the thick one?
- MS. BOKAT: It's the big fat one.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Thank you, yes.
- 2 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 3 Q. Do you have tab 10?
- 4 A. I do, thank you.
- 5 Q. I believe you were talking about this document
- 6 with Mr. Gidley earlier in the day. This relates to
- 7 Apothecon's pricing for their --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- potassium chloride?
- 10 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Ms. Bokat, I think you might
- 11 need to focus that for the benefit of the spectators on
- 12 the ELMO, or maybe I'm the only one who can't read it.
- 13 THE WITNESS: It is fuzzy.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: That's better, thank you.
- BY MS. BOKAT:
- 16 Q. So, the e-mail is about Apothecon's pricing of
- 17 their potassium chloride?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And I think you said earlier in the day that
- 20 Apothecon was aggressive in its pricing.
- 21 A. Yes, and that's why I actually asked John to do
- 22 this, to tell me how much effect they had had on the
- 23 market.
- Q. Despite Apothecon's aggressive pricing, K-Dur
- 25 10's units had gone up 3 percent, had they not?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And K-Dur 10's dollars had gone up 3.5 percent?
- 3 A. I'm assuming that they're basing those dollars
- 4 on average selling price, so, for example, K-Dur could
- 5 sell into a market and actually be aggressive with
- 6 their pricing, they could sell for less, they could
- 7 even compromise on some of their margin, but you
- 8 wouldn't see any of those in the average selling price
- 9 calculation. So, what this tells me is that K-Dur 10
- is competing and going up in a market where there's
- 11 heavy generic competition, and from my findings and
- 12 going out in the field, it would indicate that they're
- probably cutting some deals that would be extremely
- 14 profitable and would make it -- them in a position to
- 15 retain or even grow market share.
- 16 There's no way we could ascertain that from
- 17 getting the average selling price, because you don't
- really know what customers are paying with an average
- 19 selling price, as I mentioned earlier.
- 20 O. But based on this exhibit --
- MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor -- excuse me, Ms.
- 22 Bokat. I object not to the prior question but the
- 23 question before has been transcribed as the K-Dur 10
- units going up 3 percent and the document says 0.3
- 25 percent, at least on my screen.

1 MS. BOKAT: You're right, I misspoke, it is 0.3

- 2 percent.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I didn't catch that either.
- 5 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. So, according to this document, K-Dur 10's
- 7 units and dollars were both increasing despite
- 8 Apothecon's pricing, if you look at this document.
- 9 A. If you look at this document, they are
- 10 competing very well against that company.
- 11 Q. You mentioned earlier in the day that in
- 12 September of 2001, Upsher actually delivered I believe
- it was \$28 million worth of the Klor Con M20?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. And then you mentioned that today it's over \$60
- 16 million.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And I wasn't clear when you said "today," are
- 19 you talking about a particular month?
- 20 A. No, ma'am, I was talking about September
- 21 through -- I don't recall if the question was through
- year-end, but roughly how much had we sold of this
- 23 product. So, we sold \$28 million, and then if you look
- 24 at what the sales are of that since we launched the
- product, I was estimating around \$60 million.

Q. And that would be from September through when?

- 2 A. Now.
- 3 Q. You talked at some length with Mr. Gidley
- 4 earlier about the savings that could be achieved by
- 5 using two of your 10s, the old Klor Con 10s, versus
- 6 K-Dur 20.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And I believe you talked about 56 percent
- 9 savings?
- 10 A. In some cases. Again, the complication in this
- is that there's not one price to one class, so that
- would be one target point that we would use.
- Q. But at that target point, if you're talking
- about 56 percent savings, you're not comparing one Klor
- 15 Con 10 to one K-Dur 10 -- 20, right?
- 16 A. No, we'd be comparing the dose. If it was 20
- 17 mEqs a day or 40 mEqs a day, we would -- probably 20
- 18 mEqs a day, we would be comparing it that way. So, it
- 19 was two 10s.
- 20 Q. So, if we looked at 20 milliequivalents and we
- 21 compared the price of K-Dur 20 and Klor Con 10, there
- 22 was still a substantial premium in the K-Dur 20 price
- above your Klor Con 10.
- 24 A. Right, depending again on -- the only caveat
- 25 being depending on the customer. For Pacificare, for

1 example, they actually listed it as a generic. So, you

- 2 would have to spend more money to get Klor Con if you
- 3 were on that plan, and that's one of the largest plans
- 4 in the country.
- 5 Q. But, for example, those marketing pieces that
- 6 went to physicians that showed all the little coins and
- 7 the 56 percent --
- 8 A. Yes, yeah.
- 9 Q. -- that's a substantial price premium for K-Dur
- 10 20 compared to Klor Con 10.
- 11 A. Yes, it would be.
- 12 Q. You talked earlier in the day about actually
- making some sales calls, and I think you had made some
- of them as well as people who worked for you. When you
- did that, were you going from Minnesota into other
- 16 states to visit customers?
- 17 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 18 Q. Some of the salespeople who accompanied you on
- 19 those visits, were they out of Upsher's offices in
- 20 Minnesota?
- 21 A. Yes. Actually, on my calls, there was only one
- 22 gentleman, Tom Burke.
- 23 Q. Does Mr. Burke have offices in Minnesota?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q. So, you were both going across state lines to

- 1 make those visits to customers.
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q. You also talked about selling your Upsher
- 4 products to wholesalers' DCs or distribution centers.
- 5 A. Right.
- 6 Q. Are those distribution centers spread around
- 7 the United States?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So, Upsher would be shipping product from your
- 10 facilities in Minnesota to distribution centers in
- 11 other states?
- 12 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Would you be willing to look back at the skinny
- 14 white binder?
- 15 A. I'd be willing to look back at anything.
- 16 Q. I'm looking at tab 23.
- 17 A. Okay, yes. This is the Prevalite?
- 18 Q. Right, this is USX 660.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. It's about Prevalite, and I'm going to see if I
- 21 can put the first page on the ELMO. Rachel, I want to
- 22 focus on that sentence.
- 23 There's a sentence that reads, I believe it's
- 24 the third sentence, "Initial stocking in the
- 25 wholesalers was extremely successful while pull through

- 1 to the pharmacies has been a challenge."
- What's the reference to "pull through to the
- 3 pharmacies"?
- 4 A. The pull through to the pharmacies is to --
- 5 when you get into a wholesale program, for example, it
- 6 goes from the wholesaler into the pharmacy. That's the
- 7 pull through part of it.
- 8 Q. So, was Upsher having success getting Prevalite
- 9 into the wholesalers?
- 10 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q. But did you have a challenge trying to get the
- 12 product from the wholesaler into the retail pharmacy?
- 13 A. Well, 63 percent of the pharmacies were using
- it, so I -- we were obviously overcoming that, but we
- learned a lot of things about how to do that. Part of
- 16 the issue here that they're referencing is that in
- 17 First Databank, they had separate item numbers, so they
- weren't automatically pulled. What we had hoped for
- 19 was every time a pharmacist would pull up -- get a
- 20 prescription for Questran in can, that the item numbers
- 21 to that in First Databank would match our packet.
- Well, in fact, they didn't. So, we had to call them
- 23 and tell them, this is how you get it, this is what you
- 24 do, they are not going to automatically -- now, they
- 25 would for the packets. The packets to packets would

1 just automatically link, but they wouldn't in the cans,

- 2 and that was a challenge.
- 3 Q. Was there any problem with the taste of
- 4 Prevalite?
- 5 A. Bile acid sequestrants don't taste good, and I
- just want to preface it with that. You can try them
- 7 sometime if you like --
- Q. No, thank you, sir, I hope not to have to.
- 9 A. -- but they taste like sand. The biggest thing
- 10 we found with Questran was patients complained about
- 11 flavor fatigue, which is after they took it for a long
- 12 period of time, because it's very sweet, it's very
- 13 gritty, they just didn't like it anymore, they would
- 14 stop taking it. Doctors and pharmacists would say they
- 15 wouldn't be compliant. Our formulation was not sweet
- 16 at all.
- 17 Now, some of the patients then would complain
- and say, gee, I've been used to taking this really
- 19 sweet, orangy product, yours isn't like that. And we
- 20 would say, well, flavor fatigue is an issue. It's our
- 21 personal belief that -- and that's how we marketed the
- 22 product -- that it mixes better with a variety of
- 23 juices. So, rather than take orange sand in water for
- the rest of your life, you can take orange sand on
- 25 Monday, cranberry sand on Tuesday, pineapple sand on

- 1 Thursday, because there is no competing taste.
- Now, in answer to your question, did some
- 3 people complain about the taste of that? Yes. I'm not
- 4 aware of a cholestyramine where they don't complain
- 5 about the taste.
- Q. But your product didn't even taste sweet?
- 7 A. Our product did have aspartame, so it was
- 8 sweetened, but it was formulated to not have an
- 9 overpowering sweet taste to it, because that conflicts
- 10 with some of the flavors you might want to mix it in.
- 11 Q. I believe you testified that the Klor Con M20
- that Qualitest is selling actually is manufactured by
- 13 Upsher-Smith, right?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Does Upsher then ship the product to Qualitest?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q. Do you know where you ship the test -- the
- 18 product to Qualitest?
- 19 A. You know, I -- I don't. Oualitest's
- 20 headquarters I think is in Alabama, so I really don't
- 21 know their shipping destination. I'm sorry.
- Q. Do you ship to their warehouse as opposed to
- 23 their headquarters?
- A. They might be one in the same. I don't know.
- 25 Q. But as far as you know, they're located outside

- 1 Minnesota?
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. I'm going to switch focus for a few minutes to
- 4 Niacor.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 MS. BOKAT: Your Honor, may I approach the
- 7 witness, please?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 9 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 10 Q. Mr. Dritsas, I hand you CX 929, which Ms.
- 11 Hertzman has up on the computer.
- 12 A. Okay. (Document review.)
- 13 Q. What is CX 929?
- 14 A. This is the Niacor-SR tablet marketing update,
- it would have to be, it's in March of 1997. So, it's a
- 16 report, in other words, on this. It was done by Denise
- 17 Dolan, who is not the niacin marketing person, which is
- 18 a little curious, but...
- 19 Q. In March of 1997, was Ms. Dolan working in your
- 20 department?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Would you turn, please, to the page numbered
- 23 13139.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. I'm looking at the first paragraph, the top of

- 1 the page, after the number 1.
- 2 A. The first paragraph on the top of the page,
- 3 yes.
- Q. And the first sentence, Ms. Dolan reports,
- 5 "Hepatotoxicity is perceived as a significant problem
- 6 with all sustained-release niacin preparations."
- 7 Was that her belief at that time?
- 8 A. Yes, that was a perception that was common
- 9 among physicians at that time.
- 10 Q. And had that perception been reinforced by an
- 11 article in J-A-M-A?
- 12 A. Yes -- well, yes.
- 13 Q. Is that publication sometimes called JAMA?
- 14 A. It is, ma'am.
- 15 Q. Is -- what does JAMA stand for?
- 16 A. Journal of American Medical Association.
- 17 Q. So, that's a medical journal?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. Is that a highly regarded medical journal?
- 20 A. Oh, yes, ma'am.
- 21 Q. Upsher-Smith did some market research with
- 22 physicians on their perceptions of niacin therapy, did
- 23 you not?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And that research was done with cardiologists?

- 1 A. Well, which research are you referring to?
- Q. Well, let me try it another way.
- 3 Did Upsher hire a company called MedProbe, M E
- 4 D, capital P R O B E, to perform some research on
- 5 niacin?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. So, that's the research I'm asking about.
- 8 A. Yes, there were cardiologists. I thought I
- 9 recalled IMs and some GPs in there as well.
- 10 Q. I'm sorry, IMs?
- 11 A. Internal medicine doctors, as well as GPs.
- 12 That's my recollection.
- 13 Q. So, MedProbe did research with different types
- of physicians, cardiologists, internal medicine and
- 15 general practitioners?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q. That research was trying to measure physicians'
- 18 perceptions of niacin, correct?
- 19 A. Yes. We commissioned them to find out what
- 20 doctors think about niacin so that when we craft our
- 21 message for it, we would know what to say.
- 22 Q. MedProbe wrote reports of its research, did it
- 23 not?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. I'm going to show you two documents, if His

- 1 Honor will let me approach.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, you may.
- 3 BY MS. BOKAT:
- 4 Q. These are both MedProbe reports, and just to
- 5 save time, I'd like to hand them both to you at once,
- 6 but if that gets confusing, let me know, and we will do
- 7 it one by one.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. For the purpose of the computer, I guess we
- 10 better start with CX 991. So, I hand you 991, it's --
- 11 I'm sorry, CX 991.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. And CX 992.
- 14 A. Okay, thank you.
- Q. Are CX 991 and 992 reports of the research that
- 16 MedProbe did for Upsher-Smith on niacin?
- 17 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 18 Q. Would you turn, please, to the second page of
- 19 CX 991, which bears the number 12978?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. This is a report of research done with both
- 22 cardiologists and primary care physicians, right?
- 23 A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. Looking at the second to last paragraph on page
- 25 2, the first sentence reads, "Most reportedly perceive

- 1 niacin to be relatively ineffective for controlling
- 2 cholesterol levels because of patients' inability to
- 3 tolerate the drug's side effects, (i.e., flushing) at
- 4 therapeutic doses of the immediate-release form and/or
- 5 perceive the incidence of hepatotoxicity from the
- 6 sustained-release niacin as too prevalent to warrant
- 7 its use."
- 8 That was one of MedProbe's findings?
- 9 A. Absolutely, they found that doctors had that
- 10 perception.
- 11 Q. And then looking at the next paragraph, the
- 12 first sentence reads, "Virtually all of these
- 13 respondents reported that a prescription
- 14 sustained-release niacin product did not appear to have
- any advantage over the currently available OTC versions
- of the sustained-release niacin (e.g., Slo-Niacin)."
- 17 Another finding of the probe -- I'm sorry, of
- 18 MedProbe?
- 19 A. That was another perception that doctors had,
- 20 yes.
- Q. And then there's a sentence that starts at the
- bottom of that page and carries over to 12979.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And it reads, "Participants generally noted
- 25 that widespread use of this product would depend upon

1 studies demonstrating a lower incidence of flushing and

- 2 hepatotoxicity than is seen for the currently available
- 3 OTC form."
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And that was another finding from MedProbe?
- A. That was the doctors' opinions, yes.
- 7 Q. Would you be kind enough to turn now to the
- 8 other exhibit, CX 992?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Is that also a report from MedProbe?
- 11 A. It is, yes.
- 12 Q. And that's a report of research that MedProbe
- did for Upsher-Smith on niacins?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. This report is of research with primary care
- 16 physicians, is it not?
- 17 A. I believe you're right, yes.
- Q. Would you turn -- actually, I guess you already
- 19 have, to page 12950, which is the second page?
- 20 A. You're right, I have.
- Q. You're good, you're ahead of me.
- 22 For the purposes of the computer, I'm going to
- focus on the second to last paragraph on that page. Do
- you see the paragraph?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. The second sentence reads, "Virtually

- 2 none of these physicians saw an advantage to a
- 3 prescription sustained-release niacin compared to the
- 4 currently available over-the-counter niacin
- 5 formulations in terms of either efficacy or cost to
- 6 patients."
- 7 A. Yeah, now --
- 8 Q. That was one of the conclusions from MedProbe?
- 9 A. Right, not surprising at all. There were no
- 10 pharmaceutical companies promoting to them whatsoever.
- 11 Q. The next sentence goes on to read, "Further, a
- 12 number of respondents expressed concern that any
- 13 sustained-release niacin may pose a significant risk
- 14 for hepatotoxicity and would require studies
- demonstrating the product's safety before they would
- 16 consider prescribing it for their patients with high
- 17 cholesterol."
- So, that's another MedProbe finding from their
- 19 research?
- 20 A. Right, and what they're referring to there is
- 21 you would have to have a well-controlled clinical trial
- 22 where you demonstrated safety, and the assumption is
- 23 the FDA wouldn't approve a product that wasn't safe and
- 24 effective, but what they're stating is we would need
- 25 well-controlled clinical trials in order to feel

- 1 comfortable, you know, prescribing something like this.
- Q. Were the physicians saying that they would want
- 3 to see the results of those trials?
- 4 A. They would -- they had expressed concern and
- 5 would require -- I don't know that this is saying the
- 6 doctors would have to look at them. My experience in
- 7 going through their -- this with doctors is some like
- 8 to look at your clinical trials, your results of
- 9 things. Some, just the fact that you've been approved,
- 10 might ask you questions about it. So, what is your
- indication? And what was the incidence of dropout?
- 12 What was the incidence of flushing? What was the
- incidence of hepatotoxicity?
- So, for example, there's been retrospective
- 15 studies that have been done with our Slo-Niacin where
- 16 the incidence of hepatotoxicity is about 2 percent or
- 17 less, which is relatively similar to the statins. Some
- doctors will say I just want to know that. Some will
- 19 say, show me the studies. I want to see that. So,
- 20 when we come out with this product at this time, this
- 21 would tell us -- I would take some of these studies,
- take the information, I'd put it into a marketing
- format so that if the physician said, that's
- interesting, let me see what your clinical trials
- 25 showed, then the rep would have that available so that

- 1 they could show the doctor.
- 2 So, this is -- this information from both of
- 3 these are really invaluable marketing pieces, because
- 4 you don't want to hear the good stuff. You don't want
- 5 to talk to doctors and just say, oh, it's great, I'll
- 6 use it, that's fine. You want to hear, why wouldn't
- 7 you use it? Well, I wouldn't use it because it causes
- 8 too much hepatotoxicity or because it's not effective.
- 9 You want to hear all those things and then craft your
- message.
- 11 And what I recall in here, too, is I thought I
- 12 remembered some of the doctors also saying that, you
- 13 know, I suppose if a company got behind it and promoted
- it, it could be a good product, and we know that
- Niacor -- or excuse me, Kos' product, which is an
- 16 extended release niacin, does about \$100 million. So,
- 17 there are doctors out there who are willing to
- 18 prescribe an extended release niacin for that, and at
- 19 this time there was nothing on the market. In my
- 20 opinion, they didn't have any real perceptions of -- or
- 21 their perceptions were not real in terms of the
- benefit. So, it doesn't surprise me that they found
- 23 this.
- Q. Whew, that was a long answer.
- 25 A. It is.

1 Q. Let me see if I can get to a part of it.

- 2 A. Sure.
- 3 Q. So, you're saying physicians might ask to see
- 4 the clinical results or they might ask questions about
- 5 flushing, hepatotoxicity.
- 6 A. Absolutely.
- 7 O. You and I talked earlier this afternoon about
- 8 the WAC price of Klor Con M.
- 9 A. Klor Con, okay.
- 10 Q. Right, I'm sorry, I'm going to switch products.
- 11 A. No, that's okay.
- 12 Q. In September --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. -- of 2001.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And I think you said the WAC price of Klor Con
- 17 M20 was 35-40 percent below WAC for K-Dur.
- What is it today?
- 19 A. The WAC is about the same today, I believe.
- Q. Do you know how Qualitest's WAC price compares
- 21 to K-Dur 20's?
- 22 A. I don't know offhand, no.
- Q. Is Upsher-Smith currently working on any drugs
- 24 for which it intends to file an NDA?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Is Upsher-Smith currently working on any
- 2 products for which it intends to file an ANDA?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. How many ANDA products is Upsher-Smith working
- 5 on today?
- A. I honestly don't know the number, and the
- 7 reason is I'm on part of the therapeutic strategy team,
- 8 so we have an ongoing list of ANDA opportunities, some
- 9 of which move into the NPED phase, where we're
- analyzing them. From there they might move to a phase
- where they're in queue, so they might be the next
- 12 project we pick. I don't know if it's two, I don't
- 13 know if it's three. I don't know how many. I wouldn't
- be able to give you an honest answer or an accurate
- 15 answer on that.
- 16 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, I want to make sure
- 17 that this witness understands that we can go in camera
- if he is going to talk about any future NDA or ANDA
- 19 opportunity. We're happy for him to give truthful
- answers under oath, but we are going to request, Your
- 21 Honor, that we go in camera if we're getting into a
- very sensitive nature about any future potential drug
- or pipeline opportunity at Upsher-Smith.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: He's your witness. Do you
- 25 want to ask him one question to make sure he understood

- 1 what you just said?
- 2 MR. GIDLEY: Did you hear what I just said, Mr.
- 3 Dritsas?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 5 MR. GIDLEY: All right.
- 6 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Does he understand what --
- 7 MR. GIDLEY: Do you understand what I just
- 8 said?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Okay, if I'm understanding right,
- if there are going to be further questions about what
- 11 products we're working on specifically or
- 12 opportunities, then I assume --
- MR. GIDLEY: You need to let us know first so
- that we can ask the Judge to seal the courtroom.
- THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know what's going
- 16 to be asked, but I don't want to -- I would prefer not
- 17 to answer that in public. That's highly confidential.
- 18 This is not something I would share.
- 19 MR. GIDLEY: And I know this is confusing.
- 20 We're asking you not to do it without letting us know
- 21 that the question calls for that answer, and then at
- that point, would you let us all know? Do you
- 23 understand?
- 24 THE WITNESS: I do. I got it now.
- 25 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Okay, Ms. Bokat, you may

- 1 continue.
- MS. BOKAT: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 3 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. Is Upsher-Smith constantly looking for ANDA
- 5 opportunities?
- A. We look for some ANDA opportunities, yes.
- 7 Q. Do you know how many drugs Upsher-Smith
- 8 currently has in development for which it may file an
- 9 NDA?
- 10 A. I don't know offhand, no.
- 11 Q. Do you have a ballpark number?
- 12 A. I don't know for sure. I would imagine it's
- 13 small, less than three.
- Q. You talked at several points earlier in the day
- about Upsher's products being lower cost alternatives
- 16 for older people and for older people who may be taking
- 17 or paying some portion of six or seven drugs. Klor Con
- 18 M20 is a lower cost alternative to K-Dur 20, is it not?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. But the market didn't have available that Klor
- 21 Con M20 lower cost alternative until September 2001,
- 22 did it?
- A. No, that's why we promoted our two 10s as The
- 24 Economical K.
- MS. BOKAT: That concludes my cross, Your

- 1 Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Any redirect?
- 3 MR. GIDLEY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 6 Q. Mr. Dritsas, let me put back on the ELMO --
- 7 let's see, do we have the ELMO off? Good, it's on.
- I'm showing you what Ms. Bokat showed you, Mr.
- 9 Dritsas, which is CX 256, and I know it's moving
- 10 around.
- 11 A. Okay, may I see the top of it, just to see what
- 12 it's from? I saw a lot of things.
- 13 Q. Absolutely.
- A. Oh, this was the meeting notes that I didn't
- attend and I didn't get a copy on, okay.
- 16 Q. Okay, Mr. Dritsas, my first question is, did
- 17 you attend the meeting, sir?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. All right. I have highlighted the language
- 20 that says, "Launch date scenarios: 8/1/97 without an
- 21 appeal; 10/1/97 with an appeal."
- Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Sir, did the personnel at Upsher-Smith have
- 25 extensive experience with the timing of patent

- 1 infringement litigation in the 1997 time frame?
- 2 A. No, we had never done any type of litigation
- 3 like that.
- 4 Q. Has patent infringement litigation been a
- 5 common experience for the personnel at Upsher-Smith?
- A. No, I'm not aware of any other litigation that
- 7 we were ever involved in.
- 8 Q. Sir, you were at Upsher-Smith -- you have been
- 9 at Upsher-Smith for some 19 years. Is that correct?
- 10 A. Nineteen years, yes.
- 11 Q. Sir, how does the Schering/Upsher-Smith patent
- 12 infringement case compare with other litigations the
- company's had over that near two decades time period?
- A. We've never had anything as extensive or
- 15 costly.
- 16 Q. Would any of the people at this meeting know
- 17 how long it would take to appeal a patent infringement
- 18 case in U.S. Federal District Court?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, I'm going to show you this
- 21 document, Marketing Two Pagers, and you may still have
- 22 it up there.
- 23 A. Can I --
- 24 Q. Yes, it's CX 21, sir.
- 25 A. I would really prefer to grab it, if I can, if

- 1 you will just give me a minute.
- 2 Q. You bet.
- 3 A. CX --
- Q. It's in your other stack. It's kind of thick.
- 5 A. This one?
- Q. It's the Marketing Two Pager, CX 21.
- 7 A. Okay, just a moment, please. CX 21, I have it.
- 8 Q. All right. May I direct your attention to page
- 9 832, 12832.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now, sir, this -- you were asked a series of
- 12 questions about this document, but I want to go to a
- 13 couple of passages you weren't asked about.
- What's the approximate time frame in which Ms.
- Dolan had prepared this document, do you know?
- 16 A. This is in July 1997, so it would have been
- approximately a month after the settlement.
- Q. Mr. Dritsas, I've highlighted a sentence in
- 19 this document that says, "We plan to go after the 20
- 20 mEq market aggressively, as we have in the past,
- 21 capitalizing on our national account and telephone
- 22 sales force."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And sir, when it says "we" in that sentence, is

- 1 that Upsher-Smith?
- 2 A. That's Upsher-Smith, yes.
- Q. And when it describes about going after the 20
- 4 mEq market at this time period, is that going after
- 5 K-Dur 20?
- A. Yes, that segment of the potassium market.
- 7 Q. And when it says here, "as we have in the
- 8 past," does that mean you've competed aggressively with
- 9 K-Dur 20 prior to this date, sir?
- 10 A. Yes, of course.
- 11 Q. Down below it says, "Development cost to date
- 12 equals \$3.4 million."
- Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Now, the actual product development between
- 16 1989 and 1995 was how much, sir?
- 17 A. \$1.3 million.
- Q. What were the legal fees from the '743 patent
- infringement litigation, according to this document?
- 20 A. \$2.1 million.
- Q. Sir, at the top of the document, it says, under
- 22 Key Dates, "Patent Exp/ANDA."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. It's highlighted on the ELMO.

- 1 A. Oh, yes, uh-huh.
- Q. What was the expiration date for the Schering
- 3 '743 patent?
- 4 A. 2006.
- 5 Q. If Upsher-Smith lost the patent infringement
- 6 trial, when do consumers get the Klor Con M20 product?
- 7 MS. BOKAT: Objection, Your Honor. I don't
- 8 think we have any foundation for this witness to offer
- 9 that opinion.
- 10 MR. GIDLEY: Your Honor, she opened the door
- 11 wide open. She can't examine the witness for almost an
- 12 hour about launch scenarios and litigation and appeals,
- 13 conclude her examination with a discussion of the
- launch date and the 2001 events, without being asked
- 15 the other possible outcomes. It seems to me the door's
- 16 wide open.
- 17 MS. BOKAT: It seems to me he's asking for a
- 18 legal conclusion.
- 19 MR. GIDLEY: If Ms. Bokat wants to take -- I
- 20 don't mean to try the Court's patience at this late
- 21 hour, but if Ms. Bokat wants to say that people in the
- 22 Upsher-Smith marketing department don't understand the
- 23 way the courts work, we might accept that stipulation
- this afternoon, and I'll shorten my redirect if I have
- 25 that stipulation.

- 1 JUDGE CHAPPELL: The objection is to
- 2 foundation, and I'm going to sustain it to the
- 3 extent -- I want a little -- I'd like to have a little
- 4 basis of what his understanding is before he answers
- 5 that question.
- 6 MR. GIDLEY: Very good, Your Honor.
- 7 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 8 Q. Mr. Dritsas, do you have an understanding of
- 9 what the possible outcomes were for the
- 10 Schering/Upsher-Smith litigation in the first six
- 11 months of 1997?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Did you have a general understanding that you
- 14 might win or you might lose the lawsuit?
- 15 A. Yes. The general understanding I had is that
- 16 we didn't have better than a 50 percent chance of
- 17 winning.
- Q. And sir, did you have an understanding about
- 19 what might happen to the Klor Con M20 product launch if
- 20 you lost the lawsuit?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And what was your understanding in the spring
- 23 of 1997 if you lost the lawsuit in terms of the launch
- 24 date for the M20 product?
- 25 A. My understanding is that we would not be able

1 to launch the product until patent expiry, which was

- 2 2006.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Sir, what did you say, patent
- 4 what?
- 5 THE WITNESS: The expiration of the patent. I
- 6 said "patent expiry."
- 7 JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thank you.
- 8 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
- 9 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 10 Q. Mr. Dritsas, could I ask you to pull out CX 255
- 11 from your stack.
- 12 A. Yes. Do you know what it was?
- Q. Yes, it's a document that looks like this
- 14 (indicating), Klor Con M20.
- 15 A. Okay. CX 255 did you say?
- 16 Q. Yes, sir.
- 17 A. Yes, I have it.
- Q. Let's start with the cover page, the top page,
- 19 which is Bates numbers 2611.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. The author of this document says,
- 22 "Assumes successful jury trial."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Was this case a jury trial case?

- 1 A. I later learned it wasn't.
- Q. It was not a jury trial case?
- 3 A. That's what I was told.
- Q. Let me direct your attention to page 616, and
- 5 I've highlighted a sentence there, 616.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. It says, "A summary judgment motion was filed
- 8 the week of 10/28/96."
- 9 Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you know what that means?
- 12 A. No, and I don't know that many people at
- 13 Upsher-Smith would.
- Q. Do you know whether if you won or lost that
- whether that would be good or bad for your case?
- 16 A. No, I don't.
- 17 Q. Do you know whether that would have disposed of
- 18 the case?
- 19 A. No, I don't.
- 20 Q. Do you know whether there would have been an
- 21 appeal or could have been an appeal from a summary
- judgment motion?
- A. No, I don't know what a summary judgment motion
- 24 is.
- Q. But this document says it was filed 10/28/96,

- 1 that week?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Now, that prior document we were just looking
- 4 at is dated November 12?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. All right. Turn the page, sir.
- 7 A. To which page?
- Q. Just the very next page, the page that's Bates
- 9 labeled 617. Do you see that?
- 10 A. Okay, yeah.
- 11 Q. All right. That document at the top says,
- 12 "November 12, 1996."
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. It says on the same day, "Assumes
- summary judgment by 10/96."
- 16 Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you have any idea whether summary judgment
- 19 could be granted as a practical matter within three or
- 20 four days?
- 21 A. I have no idea.
- Q. Now, sir, that's an assumption that summary
- judgment would be granted by 10/96, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. 10/96 comes before November 12, 1996, does it

- 1 not?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Wouldn't we know whether we had actually
- 4 achieved this assumption or not by the time this was
- 5 written?
- A. Yes. It's probably just something that was in
- 7 earlier and they carried it over.
- 8 Q. So, this might actually be inaccurate or a
- 9 glitch?
- 10 A. Right.
- 11 Q. Mr. Dritsas, I ask you to pull out from the
- 12 stack CX 157.
- 13 A. CX 157, okay.
- MR. GIDLEY: Excuse me, Your Honor, this may be
- in camera. I think we're going back to an in camera
- 16 document. Mr. Malik?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Mr. Gidley, you led us to
- 18 believe you were the in camera man.
- 19 MR. GIDLEY: Obviously, Your Honor, Mr. Malik
- is the expert, and I am his humble servant.
- 21 MR. MALIK: Yes.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Well, thank you for letting
- 23 him stand.
- MR. MALIK: Yes, Your Honor, it is an in camera
- 25 document.

1 MR. GIDLEY: May we ask very briefly that the

- 2 courtroom be cleared of non-Upsher personnel?
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Yes, at this point I will have
- 4 to ask the public to leave while we go into an in
- 5 camera session. Thank you.
- 6 (The in camera testimony continued in Volume
- 7 20, Part 2, Pages 4925 through 4933, then resumed as
- 8 follows.)
- 9 BY MR. GIDLEY:
- 10 Q. Mr. Dritsas, do you have CX 265?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. Do you have it in front of you?
- 13 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. All right, on the ELMO, it says, "April 10,
- 15 1997."
- Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. It says, "Scope: This project plan includes,"
- 19 and there's a number of assumptions concerning the
- 20 submission and approval of the ANDA. Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. When was the ANDA approved for Klor Con M20?
- 23 A. The ANDA was approved -- that date is escaping
- 24 me right now. It was approved in 1998, I believe.
- 25 Q. I'm sorry, could you speak up?

- 1 A. It was approved in 1998, I believe.
- 2 Q. All right. Were you permitted to market this
- 3 drug without approval from the FDA, the Klor Con M20
- 4 product?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. Sir, directing your attention to some of these
- dates, there's the date of 6/17/97. Do you see that
- 8 line?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Just below it, 7/4/97, jury decision. Do you
- 11 see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. So, the author of this document thought that
- 14 the patent trial would be a jury trial. Do you see
- 15 that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. And then it says, "September to
- November '97, target market introduction, two to four
- months for appeal"?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Do you have any idea how long it takes for a
- 22 patent infringement appeal to occur in the Federal
- 23 Courts on average?
- 24 A. I have no idea.
- Q. And who was the author of this document, do you

- 1 know, sir?
- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. Let's grab CX 1100.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. And go to page 85, please, sir, right where Ms.
- 6 Bokat was asking you questions.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay, and I've got it highlighted on the ELMO
- 9 for you.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. All right. So, this is on page 16085. The
- 12 sentences read, "The 20 mEq segment is holding an ASP
- of 0.34/tablet verses (sic) the dramatically eroding
- 14 ASP in the 8 and 10 mEq markets. K-Dur 20 continues to
- 15 market as an innovator," et cetera.
- 16 Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. That ASP figure was calculated by your company.
- 19 Is that right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know at the time that this document was
- 22 prepared, December 1997, whether that was, in fact, the
- 23 actual selling price to any customer of K-Dur 20?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Would you have had access to actual selling

- 1 prices for K-Dur 20 at this time period?
- 2 A. No, and as a matter of fact, as I stated
- 3 earlier, when we went out and we actually talked to
- 4 customers, we found that in many segments, they were
- 5 essentially pricing like a generic, not by their
- 6 average selling price, but by the time you take into
- 7 consideration the market share programs, their rebates
- 8 and so forth, we couldn't compete with that type of
- 9 price, and that's what we were told.
- 10 Q. Would the ASP have included free goods?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Would the ASP have included rebates?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. Do you have any idea what Schering-Plough paid
- in rebates on K-Dur 20 in the year 1997?
- 16 A. I have no idea.
- Q. If the figure was \$9 or \$10 million, would that
- 18 surprise you?
- 19 A. It wouldn't surprise me. I wouldn't know.
- 20 Q. Would that be a significant figure in the
- 21 potassium market?
- 22 A. Absolutely, more than we could afford.
- Q. What kind of rebate level were you giving back
- 24 to the market in 1997?
- 25 A. Oh, it was very small.

- 1 Q. A lot smaller than \$9 million?
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. And none of that would be in this ASP figure.
- 4 Is that correct?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. All right. You were shown -- you were shown a
- 7 series of documents, we're going to do them very
- 8 quickly.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. One's called Niacor-SR Tablets, CX 929.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And the question Ms. Bokat asked you was about
- the perception of liver toxicity. Do you recall that?
- 14 A. Yes. On what page, may I ask?
- 15 Q. It's -- she was looking at page 139. It was
- described as a challenge.
- 17 A. Oh, yes.
- Q. Did you believe there were actual serious liver
- 19 toxicity problems with Niacor-SR?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Did you believe you could overcome this
- 22 perception among doctors?
- 23 A. Yes, we had been overcoming that perception
- 24 among doctors since we first introduced Slo-Niacin.
- 25 Kos' product, Niaspan, at \$100 million has overcome the

- 1 perception of hepatotoxicity with extended release
- 2 niacin. I have no doubt that with an FDA approved,
- 3 clinically proven safe and effective problem, or they
- 4 wouldn't approve it, that we would be able to overcome
- 5 misperceptions about hepatotoxicity in extended release
- 6 niacin.
- 7 Q. Let me direct your attention to the two
- 8 MedProbe exhibits. Do you recall those studies of
- 9 Niacor?
- 10 A. Yes, I do.
- 11 Q. And sir, you have a background in persuasion.
- 12 Is that correct?
- 13 A. I have a -- yes. My undergraduate degree has a
- 14 concentration in rhetoric and persuasion.
- 15 Q. All right. And since you graduated college,
- 16 have you used rhetoric and persuasion in your capacity
- 17 as the head of marketing and sales for Upsher-Smith?
- 18 A. I'd like to think that's contributing to some
- 19 of our success, yeah.
- 20 Q. All right. I'm showing you one of the last
- 21 pages of the MedProbe study.
- 22 A. Yes. Which one, please?
- Q. The one dated February '97. There are a lot of
- 24 bullets I could show you. I am going to cut it short.
- 25 This sentence reads -- are you there, top of page 14,

- 1 Bates numbered 917?
- 2 A. Just give me a moment, please. Yes.
- 3 Q. "Nearly all participants expressed an interest
- 4 in learning more about niacin."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What did you make of that?
- 8 A. Well, that was encouraging to us. Obviously
- 9 they were interested in finding more out about it.
- 10 Q. Were there all -- other encouraging signs that
- 11 this market research pointed to throughout this
- 12 document?
- 13 A. Absolutely. Even the information that the
- doctors gave back about the misperceptions about --
- niacin is a safe and effective product. That has been
- 16 clinically established and proven. It's been used to
- 17 lower lipid profiles for over 35 years. That there
- 18 would be doctors who had the misperception that it was
- 19 not safe and effective only told me I've got my work
- 20 cut out for me in terms of the marketing program and
- 21 the message we have to craft for them.
- Q. All right, let's set that aside.
- This is my final exhibit, Mr. Dritsas. Let's
- 24 go --
- 25 A. Thank you.

1 Q. -- back to tab 10 from your witness binder from

- 2 this morning.
- 3 A. Tab 10 in the fat one or the little one?
- 4 Q. The big one.
- 5 A. The big one.
- 6 O. Tab 10.
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- 8 O. The e-mail from John Adams.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And I want to direct your attention to the
- 11 changes in the quantities demanded for potassium
- 12 chloride.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Now, sir, Apothecon was using what strategy to
- grow its sales in this time period?
- 16 A. Aggressive pricing.
- 17 Q. What does that mean?
- 18 A. That means they were coming out with lower
- 19 prices and trying to make it up on volume.
- 20 Q. And sir, in the time period covered by Mr.
- 21 Adams' e-mail, what happened to unit sales to
- 22 Apothecon?
- 23 A. Apothecon unit sales went up.
- Q. How much?
- 25 A. 8.7 percent.

- 1 Q. How does that compare to K-Dur 10?
- A. K-Dur 10 went up 0.3 percent.
- 3 Q. In fact, sir, isn't it the case that
- 4 Apothecon's sales went up much more than all the other
- 5 sellers of potassium chloride in this document?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Sir, what does that suggest to you, if
- 8 anything, about the price sensitivity of potassium
- 9 chloride customers?
- 10 A. It says, in fact, that the -- there's a great
- deal of competitive pressures within this market and
- 12 that pricing pressures were evident, and the lower the
- pricing strategy in this case with Apothecon, they were
- able to gain unit shares at the expense of the other
- products competing within that market.
- MR. GIDLEY: Your witness.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Any recross?
- MS. BOKAT: Just a couple, Your Honor, if I
- 19 may.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Mr. Dritsas?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Do you want to go back to
- 23 Minnesota tonight?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, please.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Proceed.

- 1 MS. BOKAT: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 2 RECROSS EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MS. BOKAT:
- Q. A few minutes ago you were talking with Mr.
- 5 Gidley about Upsher planning to go after the 20 mEq
- 6 market.
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. And this was in the July 1997 time period.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Despite that, the trend has still been to K-Dur
- 11 20, away from other potassium chloride supplements,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. In which context? Units, prescriptions,
- 14 dollars?
- 15 Q. Prescriptions.
- 16 A. Prescriptions slightly.
- 17 Q. Dollars?
- 18 A. Dollars, yes.
- 19 MS. BOKAT: That's all I have. Thank you, Your
- Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Anything further for this
- 22 witness?
- MR. GIDLEY: No further questions, Your Honor.
- JUDGE CHAPPELL: Thank you, sir. You're
- excused.

1	THE WITNESS: Thank you.	
2	JUDGE CHAPPELL: Anything furthe	r before we
3	adjourn for today?	
4	MR. NIELDS: Nothing from us, Yo	ur Honor.
5	MR. CURRAN: It's your pleasure,	Your Honor.
6	MS. BOKAT: Nothing from us.	
7	JUDGE CHAPPELL: It looks like w	e lost another
8	spring-like day.	
9	MR. NIELDS: Yes, we did.	
10	JUDGE CHAPPELL: We will adjourn	until 9:30
11	tomorrow morning. Thank you.	
12	(Whereupon, at 6:00 p.m., the he	aring was
13	adjourned.)	
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